Inland Fisheries Service
Annual Report
2025-2026



Inland Fisheries Service

Tasmanian Government



Dr Jaime McAllister descending into Lake Oberon.

Cover photo – Aerial Pursuit – wild Western Lakes brown trout by Steven Ooi.

The Hon Gavin Pearce MP
Minister for Primary Industries and Water

Dear Minister

In accordance with the requirements of Section 36 of the *State Service Act 2000* and Section 42 of the *Financial Management Act 2016*, I am pleased to submit the 2025-26 Annual Report of the Inland Fisheries Service for presentation to Parliament.

Yours sincerely



Ryan Wilkinson

Director of Inland Fisheries

23 September 2026

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Minister's Message



I am pleased to present the 2025-26 Annual Report of Tasmania's Inland Fisheries Service (IFS).

Tasmania's inland fishery is one of our state's great natural assets. It supports regional economies, brings families and communities together, and provides recreational fishing opportunities that attract anglers from across Australia and beyond. As Minister for Primary Industries and Water, I am proud to support the ongoing work of the IFS in managing this valuable resource.

Throughout 2025-26, the IFS continued to deliver a broad range of programs and services that contribute to the sustainable management of Tasmania's inland fishery. From recreational and commercial fisheries management to native fish conservation, pest fish control, infrastructure improvements and community engagement, the IFS has demonstrated its commitment to ensuring our inland waters remain productive and accessible for future generations.

It was particularly encouraging to hear reports of improved angling experiences during the 2025-26 season following the challenges experienced in 2024-25. The year also saw the continued delivery of key Government commitments aimed at encouraging participation in recreational fishing and supporting Tasmania's angling community. These initiatives included the ongoing waiver of junior inland angling licence fees, helping to introduce more young Tasmanians to fishing and the outdoors. The Tagged Trout Promotion entered its second year, with three tagged trout each worth $5,000, generating significant interest and excitement among anglers across the state. The Government also continued its support for Anglers Alliance Tasmania, recognising the important role the organisation plays in representing and engaging Tasmania's recreational fishing community.

I am also pleased that the Government has provided ongoing operational support to the IFS, including $208,000 during 2025-26 as part of a two-year funding commitment. This investment helps ensure the Service can continue to review its operational model and shape the future strategic direction of the organisation.

I would like to acknowledge the valuable contribution of retiring Inland Fisheries Advisory Council (IFAC) member Ms Sheryl Thompson. Over many years, Sheryl has provided dedicated service representing the interests of anglers in Tasmania's north-west. Her commitment, insight and advocacy have helped support informed decision-making and the effective stewardship of Tasmania's inland fisheries. On behalf of the Tasmanian Government, I thank Sheryl for her significant contribution.

Tasmania's inland fishery is a unique and valuable asset. I thank IFS staff for their hard work and dedication throughout the year and look forward to continuing to work with the IFS, anglers, community groups and stakeholders to ensure this resource continues to thrive for many years to come.

The Hon Gavin Pearce MP
Minister for Primary Industries and Water

About the Inland Fisheries Service (IFS)

Vision

To have sustainable, vibrant, and healthy inland fisheries that are the envy of the rest of Australia and the world.

Mission

To manage and develop Tasmania's inland fishery resources for the benefit of the Tasmanian community and stakeholders.

Our values

In working towards achieving our vision and mission we will value:

- each other, our differences and encouraging learning,
- working together professionally and with integrity,
- diversity and equality,
- quality, creativity, new ideas and trying new things,
- maintaining a safe and no harm work environment.

Our values in action

We will:

- treat others with respect and be inclusive,
- be efficient with our time and resources,
- act in the best interests of Tasmania and the IFS in how we conduct ourselves and undertake our business,
- act promptly and professionally in dealing with stakeholders and clients,
- care for the facilities, plant and equipment of the IFS.

Our strategic goals

The outcome after five years will be that:

- The fishery is managed sustainably.
- The Lake Sorell recreational fishery is restored.
- We maintain our reputation as a world-class recreational trout fishery and increase participation.
- We have advocated and acted on behalf of freshwater ecosystems.
- The IFS is respected and valued as a responsive, proactive, accessible and dynamic organisation.
- The IFS is financially sustainable.

Corporate Plan 2022-27

The IFS Corporate Plan 2022-27 guides our actions. It supports the IFS to be responsive to current challenges and opportunities within Tasmania's inland fisheries and proactive towards achieving our Vision and Mission.

The following graphic provides a summary of IFS staffing, locations, funding, key activities and stakeholders.

Inland Fisheries Service

Primary Legislation - *Inland Fisheries Act 1995*

Other Legislation - *Marine and Safety Authority Act 1997, Litter Act 2000, Living Marine Resources Management Act 1995, Wildlife (General) Regulations 2010, Biosecurity Act 2019*

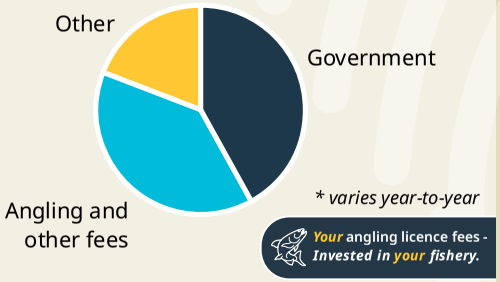
Vision

To have sustainable, vibrant and healthy inland fisheries that are the envy of the rest of Australia and the world.

Mission

To manage and develop Tasmania's inland fishery resources for the benefit of the Tasmanian community and stakeholders.

Funding



Staff profile

- 21 staff (20.4 FTE) as at June 2026

Locations

- New Norfolk
- Salmon Ponds Heritage Hatchery and Gardens
- Liawenee Field Station
- Launceston
- Ulverstone

What we do - management of:



Recreational Fisheries
(for example – trout and whitebait)



Commercial Fisheries
(for example – eels, freshwater fish farms, fish dealers, registered private fisheries)



Native Species
(for example – eels, lampreys, galaxiids, Australian grayling, estuary perch, giant freshwater crayfish)



Pest Species
(for example – redfin perch, tench, eastern gambusia, mainland yabby)



Assets and Infrastructure
(for example – Liawenee field station, Salmon Ponds, anglers access, vessels)

** Inland and upstream of the declared 'Seaward Limit'*

Key activities

- Fisheries Assessments and Reporting
- Native Fish Conservation and Management
- Pest Fish Response and Eradication
- Stocking
- Anglers Access
- Agreements and MoUs
- Licensing / Permitting
- Regulation / Policy
- Compliance / Auditing
- Environmental Advocacy
- Research and Development
- Stakeholder Engagement and Communication
- Community Education
- Customer Service
- Financial Management and Budgeting
- Record Keeping / Document Control
- Collaboration with Other Agencies

Key stakeholders

- Licenced Freshwater Angling Community
- Minister
- Inland Fisheries Advisory Council
- Representative Groups (for example – Anglers Alliance Tasmania, Trout Guides and Lodges Tasmania)
- Research Providers
- Water and Land Managers
- Landcare, NRM and Community Groups
- Other State Government Agencies and Local Government

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Inland Fisheries Service

Tasmanian Government

BL12464

Jurisdiction

Under the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995* (the Act), the Director of Inland Fisheries, (the Director), through the IFS, manages fisheries in all inland waters, which includes lakes, rivers, farm dams, registered private fisheries, ponds and aquaria. The seaward limit is the statutory boundary between State (marine) and inland waters, and the IFS controls the inland side of this limit.

Responsibilities

The IFS has primary responsibility for implementing the Act and its subordinate legislation. The Act creates the position of the Director and provides that the Director is a corporation whose responsibilities are:

- To manage, control, protect, develop, improve, maintain and regulate salmon fisheries, fisheries in inland waters and freshwater fish.
- To stock inland waters with fish.
- To create, improve and maintain access to inland waters.
- To provide facilities in respect of access to inland waters.
- To carry out research and investigation into matters relating to salmon fisheries and fisheries in inland waters.
- To collect, publish and disseminate information relating to freshwater fish and inland waters.

Management

The Director is an Agency for the purposes of the *Financial Management Act 2016.*

The IFS receives specific corporate support from the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (NRE Tas).

The Secretary of NRE Tas is the Head of Agency for the purposes of the *State Service Act 2000.*

While the IFS has primary responsibility for its core business functions, NRE Tas provides human resource administration, finance system and information technology support.

Organisational structure

At 30 June 2026, the IFS had 20.4 paid full-time equivalents.

• Director of Inland Fisheries	Dr Ryan Wilkinson
• Executive Officer (Directorate)	Vanessa Britten

Administration and Finance

• Manager (Finance and Business)	Tracy Zhou
• Executive Officer (Licensing and Finance)	Kellie Fahey
• Clerks	Tania Hooper Kristy Thompson Kerrie-Anne Collins (resigned February 2026) Louise Marks (commenced April 2026)

Fisheries Management

• Manager (Recreational Fisheries)	Dr Jaime McAllister (commenced March 2026)
• Manager (Pest Fish, Native Fish and Freshwater Ecology)	Dr Scott Hardie (commenced February 2026)
• Manager (Compliance)	Steve Paterson
• Senior Fisheries Management Officers	Robert Freeman Tim Farrell Jonah Yick
• Manager (Anglers Access)	Paul Middleton
• Team Leader (Fisheries Operations)	Brett Mawbey
• Executive Officer (Commercial Licensing and Policy)	Gabbie Henderson
• Senior Fisheries Officer	Vacant
• Senior Fisheries Compliance Officer	Brian Hall
• Senior Technical Officer	Josef Wisniewski (acting)
• Fisheries Field Officer	Brock Cuthbertson (acting)
• Technical Officer	Gareth Jones
• Utility Officer	Craig Burgess

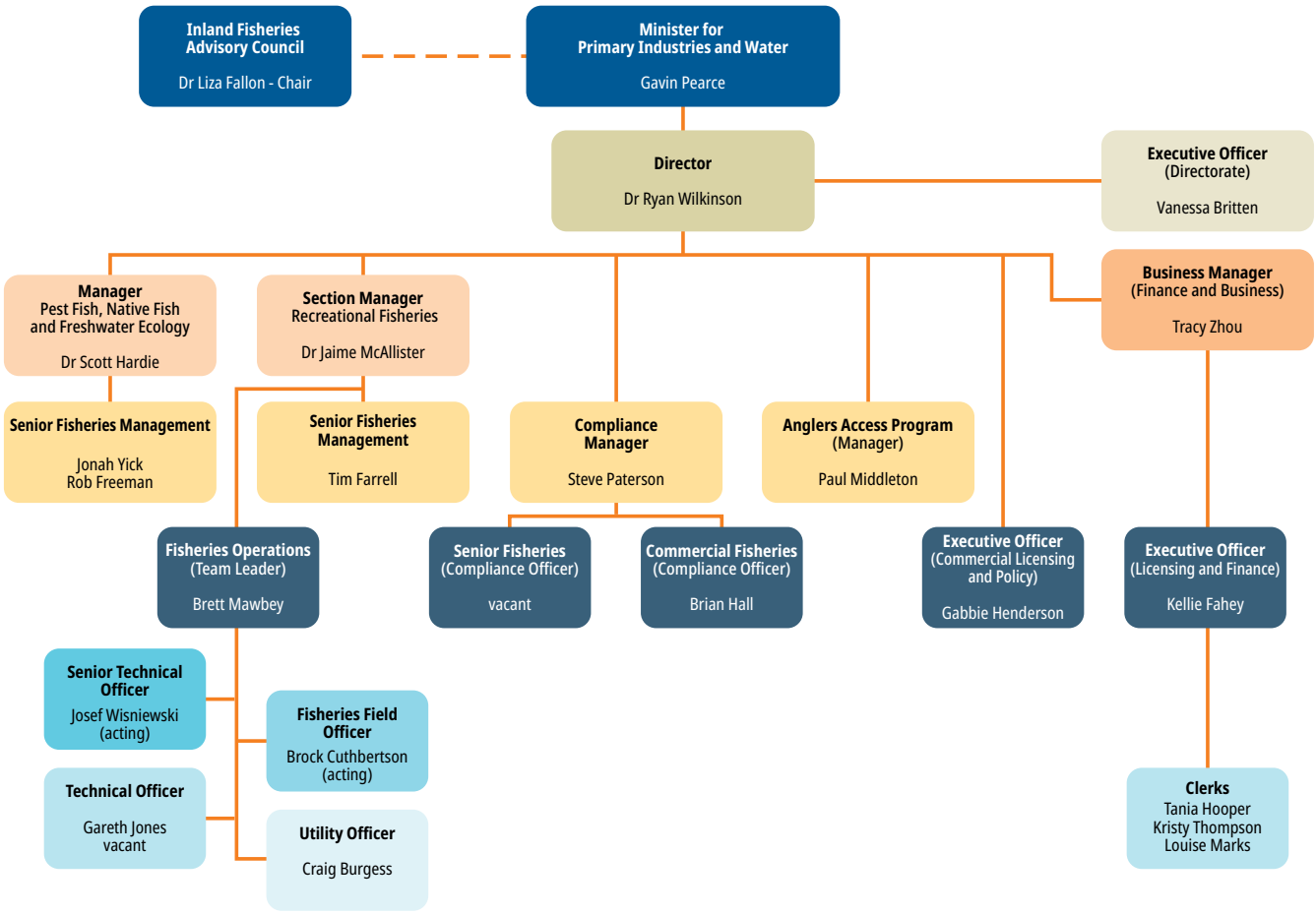


Figure 1. Organisational Chart as of 30 June 2026

Policy Commitments

2024

- Committing to waiving junior inland angling fees for a further three years ($75,00 commitment). 2024-25 was the first year of this three-year commitment.
- Re-introducing the Tagged Trout Promotion over three seasons, to encourage trout fishing and support regional economies ($150,000 commitment). Any unspent funds from the Tagged Trout Promotion will be used to support the Anglers Access Program. The new Tagged Trout Promotion commenced on 5 October 2024, with four of 16 tagged fish caught during the 2024-25 angling season. Year two of the promotion commenced on 2 August 2025 with three of the 27 trout captured during the 2025-26 angling season, each valued at $5,000.
- Providing funding of $220,000 over three years to Anglers Alliance Tasmania (AAT) to support junior fishing education programs and management of web cams so anglers can check the weather conditions for free before heading to the lakes for a fishing trip. AAT are the peak group representing over 35 angling clubs and over 23,000 freshwater licence holders.

2025

- The Government has provided $208,000 in 2025-26 and $258,000 in 2026-27 to support the IFS to undertake forecasting and analysis of licensing demands and to conduct a review of its exiting operation model.



Mr Leo Oakley – first tagged trout winner 2025-26

Inland Fisheries Advisory Council (IFAC) report 2025-26

Table 1. Membership of the Inland Fisheries Advisory Council on 30 June 2026

Representation and role	Member
Chairperson	Dr Liza Fallon
Ministerial appointment	Vacant (under recruitment)
Freshwater angling associations	Howard Jones
Director of Inland Fisheries	Dr Ryan Wilkinson
Conservation of freshwater ecosystems	Andrew Taylor
Commercial freshwater fisheries	Adam Chapman
Representing the north-western area	Sheryl Thompson (sitting ended December 2025) Julie Butler (from February 2026 - previously in Ministeral appointment role)
Representing the northern area	Julianne Stevens
Representing the southern area	Andrew Reed
Representing tourism	Fiona Dewar

IFAC provides advice to the Minister responsible for Inland Fisheries on matters related to Tasmania's inland fishery resources. IFAC also provides a forum for consultation on policy matters and a sounding board for the Director of Inland Fisheries.

IFAC held four meetings during 2025-26. Two meetings were held at the IFS office in New Norfolk, one at Campbell Town and one at the Salmon Ponds, Plenty.

The Council was briefed at each meeting on progress with the Government Policy Commitments relevant to the fishery, trends in licence sales and any other matters of strategic relevance to the management of the fishery.

The IFS Risk Register continued to provide the context for many of IFAC's discussions.

The IFAC is grateful for the support provided by the staff of IFS without which it would be unable to perform its function.

Meeting – 28 August 2025

Advice provided to the Minister regarding:

- NOTE that IFAC welcomes the Minister to the Primary Industries and Water portfolio and invites the Minister to attend the next IFAC meeting.
- NOTE that a copy of the IFAC Terms of Reference is provided to highlight the role of IFAC in providing advice to the Minister on matters relating to the Tasmanian inland fishery.
- NOTE the value proposition of the Tasmanian inland fishery, including the importance to tourism and 'brand' Tasmania.
- NOTE that IFAC wishes to highlight the importance of water management in ensuring the long-term sustainability of inland fish and inland fisheries.
- NOTE the desire of the IFS to undertake legislative reform to allow for a more agile approach to amending inland fishing rules and regulations.

Meeting – 27 November 2025

Presentation

- Director IFS – Rainbow trout egg box trial.

Advice provided to the Minister regarding:

- NOTE that IFAC thanks the Minister for attending the November IFAC meeting.
- NOTE the value proposition of the Tasmanian inland fishery, the work being undertaken by the IFS, and the importance of a well-funded IFS.
- NOTE the future plans of the IFS to review and update key strategic documents to inform the ongoing management of the fishery.
- NOTE the recent digital developments undertaken by the IFS.

Meeting – 26 February 2026

Presentation

- Manager (Pest Fish, Native Fish and Freshwater Ecology) IFS – Introduction to IFAC.

Advice provided to the Minister regarding:

- NOTE the value proposition of the Tasmanian inland fishery and the importance of a well-funded IFS.
- NOTE several positive projects that are being progressed by the IFS.

Meeting – 21 May 2026

Presentation

- Manager (Pest Fish, Native Fish and Freshwater Ecology) IFS – Churchill Fellowship presentation – Maintaining the vitality of waterways: Global perspective on monitoring and managing impacts.

Advice provided to the Minister regarding:

- NOTE the important environmental and recreational values associated with Lake Sorell and Lake Crescent.
- NOTE the recent Pedder galaxias management work being undertaken by the IFS.
- NOTE the work being undertaken by the IFS with the Tasmanian Brochure Exchange in relation to licence sales on the new Spirit of Tasmania vessels.



Outgoing IFAC member Mrs Sheryl Thompson with Minister Pearce

Legislation

Updates to inland fisheries legislation during 2025-26:

- The creation of 'Den Dam' as a new public fishery
  - Den Dam will be opened to the public in line with the 2026-27 rainbow trout season with specific regulations – including:
    - a zero-bag limit
    - restricting the angling method to use of single, barbless hooks
    - restricting the angling method to use of artificial lures or flies (i.e. no bait fishing)
    - not permitting the use of watercraft (as per the request of the landowner)
- Adjustment of the bag limit for Lake Waverly:
  - Amendment to the Regulations has changed the current daily bag limit of 12 fish over 300 mm in length, to a limit of one (1) fish over 300 mm in length.
- Relevant changes to Aboriginal and dual place names undertaken as required.

Fisheries compliance

Table 2. Compliance inspections conducted during the 2025-26 financial year

Inspection type	Total in 2025-26
Angling creel	3,166
Whitebait fishing	160
Boating safety	585

Three full-time Compliance Officers and five additional staff who undertake compliance as a secondary function of their respective roles, all authorised under the Act, delivered fisheries compliance for the year. This included enforcement activities, investigations, as well as education/awareness and public relations activities.

Fisheries Officers enforce a wide range of regulations under the Act and conduct angler creel surveys to help with fisheries assessments. The Compliance Operational Plan guides activities.

The IFS works closely with other State agencies such as Tasmania Police, Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) and Marine and Safety Tasmania (MAST) to patrol remote areas and to detect, and respond to, illegal activity.

Further details of activities are published in the Compliance Annual Report 2025-26 located at **https://www.ifs.tas.gov.au/publications/**.

Strategic goal:
The fishery is managed sustainably

Fishery performance assessments

In line with the *Tasmanian Inland Recreational Fishery Management Plan 2018–28*, and in response to angler feedback, the following fishery performance assessments (FPA) were completed during 2025-26. Full reports are available at **https://www.ifs.tas.gov.au/publications/reports**

Brushy Lagoon

An electrofishing survey was conducted at Brushy Lagoon on 18–19 August 2025 using the Smith-Root electrofishing boat. A total of 12 brown trout were captured, comprising nine females and three males, with no juveniles recorded. Fish lengths ranged from 308 to 496 mm, with a mean length of 399 mm and a mean weight of 701 g. Seven rainbow trout (all triploid) were also captured, with a mean length of 319 mm and a mean weight of 420 g. Catch per unit effort (CPUE) from the electrofishing was 1.9 brown trout per hour and 1.1 rainbow trout per hour.

A total of 1,200 brown trout were stocked into Brushy Lagoon during June–July 2025, of which 550 were adipose fin-clipped to enable a capture–mark–recapture population estimate. Of the 12 brown trout captured during the survey, three individuals (25 per cent) were fin-clipped. Based on this recapture rate, the brown trout population was estimated at 1,791 individuals. This estimate includes the 650 unclipped trout released alongside the marked cohort and indicates that relatively few brown trout were present in the lagoon prior to stocking. The estimated bias factor for the population estimate was 0.75, reflecting the influence of the small sample size, which reduces the confidence in the population estimate.

Little Pine Lagoon

An FPA electrofishing survey conducted in October 2025 using a Smith-Root electrofishing boat recorded 16 brown trout, comprising one female, two males, and 13 juveniles. CPUE was 4.6 fish per hour, representing a 77 per cent decrease compared with the October 2024 survey (20 fish per hour). This decline is likely attributable to cormorant predation.

Fish lengths ranged from 103 to 524 mm, with a mean length of 205 mm and a mean weight of 243 g. The population was dominated by one-year-old fish, with smaller numbers of two-year-old fish from the 2023 cohort also captured.

Arthurs Lake

An FPA electrofishing survey was conducted at Arthurs Lake in December 2025 using a Smith-Root electrofishing boat. A total of 165 brown trout were captured, resulting in a CPUE of 32 fish per hour, similar to the December 2024 survey result (30 fish per hour).

The mean length and weight of fish captured was 324 mm and 436 g, respectively, with an average condition factor of 1.16 k, indicating fish were in fair condition.

The population displayed a broader length structure compared with previous surveys, with both smaller and larger fish well represented. This suggests the population may be entering a recovery phase following the impacts of cormorant predation.

South Riana Lake

A box trapping survey was conducted at South Riana Lake on 25–27 August 2025 using 30 box traps set over two nights (60 trap sets in total). A total of 46 brown trout were captured, comprising 24 females and 22 males, with no juveniles recorded. CPUE was low at 0.77 fish per trap. The mean length and weight of captured fish were 487 mm and 1,165 g, respectively.

Prior to the survey, 600 brown trout were stocked into the lake in June 2025, all of which were adipose fin-clipped to support a capture–mark–recapture population estimate. Of the 46 brown trout captured, only two individuals (4.3 per cent) were fin-clipped. Based on this low recapture rate, the population size was estimated at 9,416 brown trout. The estimated bias factor was 0.5, indicating a high level of bias associated with the low number of recaptures and limited sample size. Therefore, the confidence in this population estimate is low.

Curries River Reservoir

A box trapping survey was conducted at Curries River Reservoir between 29 September and 1 October 2025. A total of 24 brown trout were captured, comprising nine females and 15 males, with no juveniles recorded. Fish lengths ranged from 350 to 455 mm, with a mean length of 410 mm and a mean weight of 639 g. No rainbow trout were captured.

CPUE across 70 box trap sets was 0.3 brown trout per trap, which is lower than the CPUE of 0.64 fish per trap recorded in 2019, when abundance was also considered low.

Between May and July 2025, 1,580 brown trout were stocked into the reservoir, including 750 adipose fin-clipped fish (500 released into the eastern basin and 250 into the western basin). All fish captured during the survey were from the eastern basin, of which nine individuals (38 per cent) were fin-clipped. Based on this recapture rate, the population was estimated at 1,253 brown trout. This estimate incorporates the 830 unclipped fish released alongside the marked cohort and indicates that only a small residual population was present prior to the 2025 stocking events. The estimated bias factor was 2.25, reflecting reduced reliability associated with the limited sample size.

The mean condition factor was 0.92 k, with approximately 12 per cent of fish classified in fair condition, with the remainder in poor condition. There was no evidence of natural recruitment with an absence of juvenile fish. This population appears to be dominated by recently stocked fish.

Tooms Lake

An electrofishing survey was conducted at Tooms Lake on 2–3 December 2025 using a Smith-Root electrofishing boat. Sampling targeted the shoreline and the mouth of Jimmys Creek, covering approximately 12.4 km. Total electrofishing effort was est 7.5 hours.

A total of 39 brown trout and six rainbow trout were captured. The brown trout sample comprised 25 females, 12 males, and two immature fish. Fork lengths ranged from 218 - 550 mm, with a mean length of 441 mm. Rainbow trout (all triploid) ranged from 331 to 430 mm and represented 13 per cent of the total catch. Fish were not weighed; however, observed condition of both brown and rainbow trout was assessed as good to excellent.

CPUE for brown trout was 5.2 fish per hour, representing a 68 per cent increase compared to a similar survey conducted during 2022 at 3.1 fish per hour. There was no evidence of recruitment from the 2025 spawning, with no juvenile fish recorded. A small number of fish in the 210 to 370 mm length range reflected low levels of recruitment from earlier years. Moreover, in the 390 to 429 mm length range are likely to be from the stocking of adult brown trout in 2024, while the dominant cohort (length range 430 to 479 mm) is consistent with the release of 500 adult brown trout in June 2025 that were sourced from Yingina / Great Lake. The population is, therefore, thought to be dominated by stocked fish, with limited recent natural recruitment occurring.

Lake Leake

An electrofishing survey was conducted at Lake Leake over two days in March 2026 using a Smith-Root electrofishing boat. A total of 35 trout were captured, comprising 33 brown trout and two rainbow trout.

CPUE for brown trout was 5.9 fish per hour, indicating relatively low abundance for the level of survey effort applied. CPUE for rainbow trout was 0.36 fish per hour; however, this is likely to underestimate their abundance due to reduced electrofishing efficiency in deeper, open-water habitats that the species generally utilises.

The brown trout sample comprised 11 females, 15 males and seven juvenile fish. Lengths ranged from 125 - 565 mm, with a mean length of 409 mm and a mean weight of 919 g. The mean condition factor was 1.20 k, indicating fish in good overall condition.

There was limited evidence of recent natural recruitment, with very few fish recorded below 300 mm. The population was dominated by larger fish in the 400 to 530 mm length range. The presence of these cohorts is consistent with previous surveys, with larger fish likely originating from stocking of adult fish in 2020 and 2021.

Overall, the population structure suggests limited natural recruitment, with the population dominated by older fish, most of which are likely derived from previous stocking events.

River Surveys

Riverine trout populations across Tasmania have experienced a decline, which is likely to be attributed to cormorant predation from 2023 to early 2025. Impacts have been most pronounced in northwest rivers, while rivers in the northeast and south have been comparatively less affected.

The results of backpack electrofishing surveys in 14 rivers indicates reduced abundance across all size classes of brown trout and rainbow trout. Juvenile (0+) trout were the most common cohort in catches; however, their abundance was below typical levels in most rivers surveyed.

Results from the 2026 surveys indicate early signs of recovery in brown trout populations, with increased presence of both 0+ and 1+ year classes across most rivers, suggesting improved recruitment. Despite this, key nursery streams that historically supported high juvenile densities had substantial declines in 2025 and only limited recovery during 2026. The reduced presence of juvenile fish is likely due to a combination of direct predation from cormorants and recent declines in the abundance of spawning stocks (i.e. mature fish).

These results are consistent with previous predation-driven declines (e.g. survey results during 1978 and 2011), where recovery is typically dependent on natural recruitment over several breeding seasons. Current management measures, including conservative bag limits are intended to minimise additional pressure on recovering brown trout stocks.

While stocking may provide localised benefits in some systems, it is considered secondary to natural recruitment in driving population recovery. Overall, although the magnitude of the current decline appears greater than in previous events, recent survey results indicate that recovery is underway in several river systems.

Calder River – Rainbow Trout Egg Box Trial

In February 2026, the IFS conducted electrofishing surveys of the Calder River and Inglis River in northwest Tasmania. These surveys followed the spring release of approximately 7,000 wild rainbow trout produced through an egg hatching box trial, implemented by local volunteers and conducted under an IFS Exemption Permit.

Encouragingly, strong numbers of rainbow trout fingerlings were captured in several areas near the hatching sites. Fish exhibited excellent growth, with lengths ranging from 80 to 115 mm.

Multiple cohorts of brown trout were also present, ranging from recent recruits to adult fish. A diverse assemblage of native species were also recorded, including Australian grayling, river blackfish, short-finned eels, and several galaxiid species. Given the success of the trial, further deployments of egg hatching boxes are planned for the 2026–27.

Future Assessments

The following assessments are scheduled for 2026-27: Statewide River Survey program, egg box trial sites at the Calder River, and FPA surveys at Little Pine Lagoon, Arthurs Lake, Woods Lake, Penstock Lagoon and trout recruitment assessment at Lake Sorell.

Trout hatchery, stocking and adult transfers

Consistent with the *Tasmanian Inland Recreational Fishery Management Plan 2018-28* the IFS has supplemented fish stocks in waters across the State using fish sourced from Central Highlands spawning traps, commercial hatcheries and the Salmon Ponds hatchery.

Wild brown trout spawning run 2025

Despite ongoing dry conditions, trapping of the 2025 brown trout spawning run commenced on 1 May 2025 and finished on 13 August 2025 (see Table 3). A total of 14,921 adult brown trout were transferred to waters across the state with 3,755 released upstream of the traps to spawn.

Table 3. Wild brown trout caught in Central Highlands fish traps in 2025

Trap	Number transferred	Number released above trap
Liawenee Canal – Yingina / Great Lake	3,682	1
Sandbanks Creek – Yingina / Great Lake	2,138	10
Tumbledown Creek – Arthurs Lake	3,773	3,512
Scotch Bobs Creek – Arthurs Lake*	0	0
Hydro Creek – Arthurs Lake*	0	232
River Derwent – Lake King William	5,328	0
Total	**14,921**	**3,755**

*Traps not activated or only briefly activated

Wild rainbow trout spawning run 2025

The IFS use fish traps at Liawenee Canal (Yingina / Great Lake) to monitor and actively enhance the Yingina / Great Lake wild rainbow trout fishery (Table 4). An initiative to establish a wild rainbow trout fishery in Den Dam commenced in 2025, involving the transfer of 172 wild adult fish captured from the Liawenee Canal into the dam in an effort to establish a self-sustaining population.

Table 4. Total captures of wild rainbow trout, Liawenee 2017-2025

Trap	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Liawenee Canal – Yingina / Great Lake	1,364	685	4,417	5,402	2,310	923	988	1,093	349

Further details of activities are published in the Central Highlands Fish Trap Report 2025 - Wild Brown Trout and Wild Rainbow Trout Management Report 2025 located at https://www.ifs.tas.gov.au/publications/fish-trap-reports.

Stocking of inland waters for public fishing

Each year the IFS stock selected waters in the public fishery. In 2025, the IFS stocked 389,357 wild brown trout, 87,697 rainbow trout, 4,285 brook trout, and 4 Atlantic salmon (Table 5).

Table 5. Stocking of inland waters for public fishing by age/size class for 2025

Age/size class	Brown trout	Rainbow trout	Brook trout	Atlantic salmon
Fry (1-5 g)	375,000	18,200	0	0
Fingerlings (6-50 g)	0	53,400	0	0
Yearling (51-300 g)	0	10,200	0	0
Adult (>301g)	14,357	5,897	4,285	4
Total	**389,357**	**87,697**	**4,285**	**4**

For the full report go to the IFS website **https://www.ifs.tas.gov.au/publications/stocking-reports**.

Ova and fish sales

During 2025-26 the IFS sold trout ova and various sized trout to registered private fisheries and private farm dams (Table 6).

Table 6. Ova and fish sales between 1 July 2025 and 30 June 2026

Qty	Age/size class	Species	Recipient	Value $
30,000	Eyed ova	Triploid rainbow	Fish farm	858
500	Yearling (51-300 g)	Triploid rainbow	Fish farm	1,125
200	Yearling (51-300 g)	Triploid rainbow	Angling club activities	400
10,000	Fingerlings (6-50 g)	Triploid rainbow	Private farm dams	10,000
260	Yearling (51-300 g)	Triploid rainbow	Private farm dams	870
200	Yearling (51-300 g)	Triploid rainbow	Junior activities	200
250	Fry (1-6 g)	Brown trout	Registered private fisheries	0
346	Fingerlings (6-50 g)	Tiger trout	Registered private fisheries	1,750
1,500	Fingerlings (6-50 g)	Triploid rainbow	Registered private fisheries	1,500
60	Yearling (51-300 g)	Tiger trout	Registered private fisheries	1,300
3,450	Yearling (51-300 g)	Triploid rainbow	Registered private fisheries	9,315
36	Adult (>301)	Brown trout	Registered private fisheries	150
140	Adult (>301)	Brook trout	Registered private fisheries	250
10	Adult (>301)	Triploid rainbow	Registered private fisheries	200
30,000	Eyed ova	Brown trout	South Australian Fly Fishers Association (SAFFA)	1,650



Brown trout – Liawenee fish trap

Commercial fisheries

Private fisheries

Registered private fisheries provide recreational fishing opportunities without being subject to angling licence provisions and seasonal restrictions. On 30 June 2026, there were 14 registered private fisheries, which has increased by one from 2024-25.

Fish dealers

A person dealing in applicable freshwater fish must be a registered fish dealer under the Act. On 30 June 2026, there were 55 registered fish dealers, nine less than in 2024-25.

Fish farms

A fish farm means any area on land or in inland waters used to farm, culture, hatch, rear, ranch, enhance or breed freshwater fish for commercial or research purposes (Table 7). This year the IFS:

- issued nine (9) aquarium fish farm licences
- renewed one (1) salmonid hatchery fish farm licence.

Table 7. Types of freshwater fish farms in operation at 30 June 2026

Species farmed	Number of fish farm licences
Eels/Salmonids	1
Salmonids	19
Freshwater Aquarium	34
Freshwater Aquarium/Salmonids	1

Commercial freshwater fishing licences

All 12 existing commercial freshwater fishing licences (CFFL) (eels) were renewed. Nine licences were actively fished. The industry declared a held catch of 18,029 kg of wild eels, down 27.8 per cent compared to 23,850.5 kg for 2024-25.

Exemption permits and angling exemptions

Twenty-two permits were issued exempting the holder from the requirement of an angling licence in support of educational and community programs.

Fifty-seven permits were issued exempting the holder from various sections of the Act in support of education, fish transport or scientific research.

CFFL (eel) holders who elect to receive an industry support allocation of free elver for restocking, typically receive a maximum of 50 kg per licence per year. An exemption permit was issued to each CFFL holder to allow the possession, transport, and release of juvenile eels into approved waters within their licenced catchment.

Review of the Permissible Imports List – Freshwater Aquarium Fish

Registered Fish Dealers are permitted to import live freshwater fish into Tasmania for use in the aquarium fish trade. The Permissible Imports List – Freshwater Aquarium Fish is a list of fish that may be imported by Registered Fish Dealers. The IFS only lists fish that present a low risk of establishment in the Tasmanian environment. Biosecurity Tasmania ensures that only fish on this list come through the state's monitored entry points. This list is reviewed annually before June each year.

In March 2026 the IFS updated the Permissible Imports List – Freshwater Aquarium Fish to add more species that are available to industry and amend names according to the latest scientific advice and input from Pet Industry Association Australia (PIAA). These were considered through a risk assessment framework. Registered Fish Dealers and Biosecurity Tasmania were consulted as part of the review process. The current amended list contains 476 genera and species of fish that are permitted for import into Tasmania.

For the full list go to the IFS website
https://www.ifs.tas.gov.au/media/publications/Inland_Fisheries_Service_-June_2026_Permissible_imports_list_freshwater_aquar.pdf

Native fish conservation and management

An annual report of native fish management activities for 2025-26 was produced and published on the IFS website located at **https://www.ifs.tas.gov.au/publications/reports**. The report focuses on monitoring threatened native fish species and implementing management and recovery actions for other key freshwater fish species. It summarises activities and outcomes during 2025–26 and, where available, presents recent monitoring results for selected native fish populations. An overview of the 2025–26 monitoring activities and results is provided below.

Estuary Perch Survey in the Arthur River

From 17-20 November 2025, IFS staff surveyed the estuary perch (*Percalates colonorum*) population, in the Arthur River, north-west Tasmania. The aims of the survey were to:

1. re-assess the structure of the population
2. determine the ratio of tagged versus untagged fish to obtain an updated population size estimate, and
3. collect fin clips for genetic analysis of the population.

The genetic work aimed to examine the genetic diversity in the population (in more detail to previous assessments), to help inform a potential future breeding program for the species.

A previous survey of the population was undertaken in December 2023, where 191 fish were tagged and released. During the 2025 survey, 172 estuary perch were caught, with 138 fish being tagged prior to release. These fish ranged in size from 157 to 432 mm in fork length.

In November numerous small fish under 220 mm in length were captured, with otoliths collected from nine individuals being processed to estimate their age (otoliths were processed and read by Pete Coulson, Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS)). Two age cohorts were found in the nine small individuals that were examined, with fish being approximately four and seven years old (from recruitment events in 2022 and 2018, respectively). The 2022 cohort had not been recorded in the previous surveys of this population, and is likely to be reasonably abundant given the number of fish caught in the 160 to 220 mm size range during the 2025 survey (n = 43). One tagged fish from a previous survey of the population in 2014-15 was recaptured, while eight fish tagged during the 2023 survey were also caught. A detailed report of the findings of the 2025 survey is being prepared.

AFN Fishing Show features Estuary Perch Management Efforts in the Arthur River

The IFS will feature in an upcoming episode of the AFN Fishing Show, with host Bill Classon travelling to the Arthur River on 9-11 February 2026 with IFS staff. The episode will focus on the ongoing fisheries management work that the IFS is undertaking on the single population of estuary perch that currently exists in Tasmania.

Scheduled to air in late 2026, the episode will delve into the history, current status and future prospects of estuary perch in the Arthur River system. Viewers will gain an inside look at how the IFS has been surveying the population, including footage of population monitoring activities undertaken by the IFS fish biologists during the filming event. The trip also provided further information on the distribution of estuary perch in the Arthur River and an opportunity to tag some additional fish to assist with future monitoring.

The episode will also highlight the successful stocking initiatives for estuary perch that are being used in Victoria by the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA). The initiatives that are being used in Victoria may provide strategies that can be employed in conservation efforts for this species in Tasmania. The episode will also explore the collaborative work between the VFA and the IFS to improve understanding and management of this iconic species. Hopefully, the national exposure provided by AFN Fishing Show will help raise awareness of the significance of Tasmania's only estuary perch population and the importance of ongoing conservation efforts.

Pedder galaxias

During March, April and June 2026, the Pedder galaxias population in the Strathgordon water supply dam was surveyed using overnight fyke netting. Surveys in March and April captured 17 and 28 fish, respectively (1.1 and 1.8 fish per net, respectively), confirming a continued decline in abundance since 2023. This decline is attributed to ongoing recruitment failure, with no young-of-the-year fish detected since 2023 and the population now comprising of entirely older individuals (98 to 123 mm in length). Management actions were implemented in response, including reinstatement of a 1 mm outflow screen in early April and the translocation of 100 juvenile Pedder galaxias from Lake Oberon later that month. A follow-up survey in June 2026 captured 49 fish (3.1 fish per net), representing a 72 per cent increase in relative abundance. Capture–mark–recapture analysis estimated the size of the population to be approximately 272 individuals (95 per cent CI = 172–372 fish), inclusive of translocated fish.

At Lake Oberon, monitoring using overnight fyke netting in April 2026 recorded high abundance (total of 344 fish; 34.4 fish per net) with a broad range of size classes present, indicating continued recruitment and a stable, self-sustaining population. The abundant population in this lake will support ongoing translocation efforts in early 2027 to assist the rebuilding of the population in the Strathgordon water supply.

Galaxiid species in Arthurs Lake and Woods Lake

During October 2025, Arthurs paragalaxias and Saddled galaxias populations were monitored in Arthurs Lake and Woods Lake using overnight fyke netting. In Arthurs Lake, Arthurs paragalaxias abundance was relatively high, with 174 fish captured at an average of 7.3 fish per net, well above the 10-year average of 4.1 fish per net and well above the low abundance that was evident during 2022 to 2024. Length-frequency data showed multiple cohorts, including substantial recruitment (26 to 44 mm in length), high survival of adults (46 to 62 mm), and the presence of older fish, suggesting a stable and well-structured population.

In contrast, Arthurs paragalaxias remained in very low abundance in Woods Lake, with only a single individual captured in October 2025, continuing a prolonged period of very low capture numbers since 2018. The causes of this decline are uncertain, with a combination of environmental (e.g. variation in water levels and water clarity) and biological pressures (variation in abundance of brown trout) influencing the population.

The results from monitoring during 2025 indicated Saddled galaxias populations had increased in abundance in both lakes. In Arthurs Lake, 362 fish were captured (15.1 fish per net), substantially above the 10-year average of 3.4 fish per net, indicating a marked increase in abundance. In Woods Lake, 224 fish were captured (9.3 fish per net), also well above the long-term 10-year average of 2.7 fish per net. In both lakes, length-frequency distributions were dominated by cohorts between approximately 50 and 80 mm in length, indicating recent successful recruitment; although few larger individuals were present, suggesting limited survival to older age classes.

Galaxiid species in Penstock Lagoon and Shannon Lagoon

During April 2026, galaxiid populations in Shannon Lagoon and Penstock Lagoon were monitored using overnight fyke netting. Shannon galaxias remained moderately abundant in Shannon Lagoon, with a mean catch rate of 11.4 fish per net. This was broadly consistent with catch rates recorded in recent years and close to the long-term average of 16 fish per net observed between 2016 and 2026, indicating a relatively stable

population despite minor year-to-year fluctuations in catch rates. Length-frequency data indicated strong recent recruitment, with a prominent young-of-the-year cohort (30 to 35 mm in length), although older size classes were less well represented.

In Penstock Lagoon, catches of Shannon paragalaxias returned to relatively high levels (46.2 fish per net) following a decline in abundance in 2024 (10.4 fish per net). This was driven primarily by strong recruitment, with few larger individuals being captured.

Great Lake paragalaxias remained relatively rare in in the catches in both lagoons, with very low abundance recorded in Shannon Lagoon (0.19 fish per net) and no individuals being captured in Penstock Lagoon, reflecting ongoing habitat limitations and consistently low population levels.

Spotted galaxias exhibited strong recruitment-driven increases in abundance. In Shannon Lagoon, CPUE increased markedly to 55 fish per net due to a high proportion of young-of-the-year fish. In Penstock Lagoon, CPUE declined from a recent peak in 2024, but remained elevated (17 fish per net) relative to pre-2020 levels.

Swan galaxias

During March and May 2026, Swan galaxias populations were monitored using backpack electrofishing across newly translocated populations, their respective source populations and two other existing populations. Source populations were generally at low to moderate abundance. At Rocka Rivulet, eight adults were captured (0.52 fish per minute), while low-flow conditions in the Dukes River limited survey effort, with 12 individuals observed. At the St Pauls River, five fish were captured, representing a notable increase in abundance compared to recent years. No Swan galaxias were detected at Cygnet River, with several climbing galaxias present that were removed to assist recovery of the Swan galaxias population.

Monitoring of recently established translocated populations provided encouraging evidence of successful establishment and recruitment. At Evercreech Rivulet and Delvin Creek, where translocations were undertaken in 2023, seven and eight fish, respectively, were captured during surveys (0.5 fish per minute at each site). These catch rates represent an increase in abundance compared with 2025, and the presence of multiple size classes including juveniles, suggests ongoing recruitment and population growth. At Newitts Creek, a site established in 2025, two fish were captured (0.1 fish per minute), with additional juveniles observed during surveys, indicating early-stage population establishment and successful reproduction.

Routine monitoring of other existing populations highlighted variability in habitat conditions. No Swan galaxias were detected in Tater Garden Creek due to extremely low flows and limited habitat availability. In Tullochgorum Creek, small numbers of both adults and juveniles were concentrated in remnant pools under zero flow conditions.

Overall, results indicate that while source populations remain low and variable, translocated populations are establishing, with strong recruitment evident. The very dry period over the summer and autumn of 2025-26 produced very low to cease-to- flow conditions across many streams that were monitored.

Clarence galaxias

No monitoring or management actions were undertaken for the Calrence galaxias during the 2025-26 period. However, future monitoring for this species is planned for October–December 2026.

Golden galaxias

During March–April 2026, golden galaxias populations were monitored in Lake Crescent and Lake Sorell using overnight fyke netting. In Lake Crescent, 1,404 fish were captured (88 fish per net), representing a decline from both the long-term average (180 fish per net) and the previous year (159 per net). Despite lower overall abundance, length-frequency data indicated strong recruitment, with most fish in the 30 to 75 mm range. Few larger individuals were present, suggesting limited survival to older age classes in recent years.

In Lake Sorell, 4,257 fish were captured (266 fish per net), representing the second highest CPUE recorded since 2011, indicating an abundant population of this species is currently present in lake. This result was driven by strong recruitment, with young-of-the-year fish (30 to 50 mm) comprising the majority of the catches. Larger size classes were poorly represented, with few individuals exceeding 70 mm in length.

Overall, the abundance of both populations was strongly recruitment-driven, with Lake Crescent showing greater survival into mid-size classes, while Lake Sorell was dominated by younger fish, indicating comparatively lower survival into older age classes.

Dwarf galaxias

No actions were undertaken for the Dwarf galaxias during the 2025-26 period.

Elver and lamprey

A total of 1,589 kg of lamprey were caught in the Meadowbank Dam trap and released into Meadowbank Lake.

A total of 549 kg of elver (juvenile eels) were caught in the Meadowbank Dam trap and 362 kg from the Trevallyn Tailrace. A total of 170 kg of elvers were stocked into public waters (Table 8), with 410 kg allocated to Commercial Freshwater Fishing Licence (CFFL) holders (Table 9) and the excess elver were released back into the Trevallyn Tailrace.

Table 8. Public waters stocked with elver by the Inland Fisheries Service in 2025-26

Water	Kg stocked	Elver per kg	Number of elver stocked	T - Trevallyn M - Meadowbank
Meadowbank Lake	258	323	83,334	M
Lake Burbury	50	633	31,650	T
Lake Rowallan	25	633	15,825	T
South Esk River	100	592	59,200	T
Lake Pieman	75	633	47,475	T

CFFL (eel) holders who elect to receive an industry support allocation of free elver for restocking, typically receive a maximum of 50 kg per licence per year. An exemption permit was issued to each CFFL holder to allow the possession, transport, and release of juvenile eels into approved waters within their licenced catchment.

The following CFFL holders received the following allocation of free elver as part of the industry support program.

Table 9. Elver allocation for CFFL holders

Licence number	Elver kg received
1	50
6	50
9	50
11	50
21	50
22	100
24	60
26	50 – transferred to #22

Pest fish management

Redfin perch eradication effort in the Huon Valley

In April 2026, the IFS undertook works to eradicate invasive redfin perch from two farm dams in the Mountain River catchment in Huon Valley, following the first detection of the species in the region in March 2023.

The presence of redfin in the catchment was first recorded on 12 March 2023, when an angler caught a redfin perch in Mountain River, which was the first confirmed record of the species in the broader Huon River catchment.

Despite extensive surveys of rivers, creeks and farm dams between April 2023 and January 2024, only one additional fish was located. A public awareness campaign was then launched to encourage anglers and residents to report any further sightings of the species.

In May 2025, new information led IFS to investigate several farm dams, confirming two established populations of redfin perch. Both dams periodically overflow into Mountain River, making them the most likely source of the earlier detections of the species in the river.

In April 2026, IFS carried out a staged eradication program. Water levels in both dams were reduced before applying rotenone, a targeted fish poison (piscicide). Within 30 minutes of treating the dams, redfin perch began surfacing, with individuals ranging from 100 mm to 420 mm in length being observed. Over a period of two days, both dams were thoroughly treated with rotenone, and many redfin perch of broad size ranges were found to have succumbed to the treatment. A total of 223 redfin perch were also collected to examine the biology of the two populations.

Initial results indicate the treatment was successful, with follow-up surveys being scheduled in April 2027 to confirm eradication. Although the dams are likely to have overflowed into Mountain River in recent years, the habitat of the river (fast-flowing with sporadic high flows, high-gradient rocky riverbed) is thought to be unfavourable for redfin perch. In addition, the results of repeated fish surveys in Mountain River indicate that redfin perch have not established a significant population in the system. A report on the fish surveys and eradication effort is being prepared. A report covering the previous distribution surveys in the Mountain River catchment during 2023-2024 can be found here:
https://www.ifs.tas.gov.au/publications/pest-fish-reports



IFS Fisheries Field Officer Brock Cuthbertson with a redfin perch caught in a Huon Valley farm dam

Strategic goal:
The Lake Sorell recreational fishery is restored

After a 28-year intensive removal program, European carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) have been eradicated from Lake Sorell and consequently, Tasmania. To maintain this status, the IFS will continue a watch-and-act approach at Lake Sorell, supported by education and awareness programs highlighting the risks posed by invasive species.

Annual monitoring of the golden galaxias population was also undertaken (refer to Native Fish Conservation and Management).

In May 2026, substantial numbers of brown trout were observed spawning in Mountain Creek, including many larger fish between 2 and 2.5 kg. The strong spawning run is indicative of potentially good recruitment, while angler catches continued to be monitored through creel surveys (reported below).



IFS officer electro-fishing at Lake Sorell

Strategic goal:
We maintain our reputation as a world-class recreational trout fishery and increase participation

Angler survey

The annual Angler Postal Survey (APS) obtains a range of data about the trout fishery that is used to assist fishery management. The survey has been operating since 1986.

The APS was a paper questionnaire mailed out at the end of the angling season. In 2024-25 the questionnaire was mailed out as well as emailed. The response rate was higher for the emailed questionnaire. After a comparison of the results, a decision was made to proceed with a questionnaire delivered by email only for 2025-26 onwards.

This year 7,000 questionnaires were emailed to randomly selected recipients. At the time of writing, 793 responded by completing the questionnaire. The survey is now more cost effective due to anglers entering the data directly into the database. The entered data are vetted for errors prior to analysis and reporting.



IFS Fisheries Field Officer Brock Cuthbertson measuring fish during a fisheries performance assessment

Results for Angler Survey 2021-22 to 2025-26 (lakes)

*Catch rate = all fish species combined, expressed as fish per angler per day

Table 10. Results for Angler Survey 2021-22 to 2025-26 (lakes). Annual ranking based on participation results (angler numbers)

Ranking	Email survey			Email survey			Postal paper survey			Postal paper survey			Postal paper survey		
	Season 2025-26	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2024-25	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2023-24	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2022-23	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2021-22	Catch rate*	Total anglers
1	Yingina / Great Lake	1.51	4,806	Yingina / Great Lake	1.40	4,783	Yingina / Great Lake	1.64	7,468	Yingina / Great Lake	1.48	6,069	Yingina / Great Lake	1.67	7,223
2	Arthurs Lake	0.75	3,782	Arthurs Lake	0.67	4,750	Arthurs Lake	1.37	4,899	Arthurs Lake	1.27	4,812	Arthurs Lake	1.13	5,436
3	Penstock Lagoon	1.19	3,299	Penstock Lagoon	1.08	3,662	Penstock Lagoon	1.08	3,662	Little Pine Lagoon	1.17	2,861	Woods Lake	2.58	3,649
4	Bronte Lagoon	0.97	2,161	Little Pine Lagoon	0.46	2,639	Bronte Lagoon	1.78	3,377	Woods Lake	2.54	2,818	Penstock Lagoon	1.52	3,003
5	Bradys Lake	0.70	1,849	Bronte Lagoon	0.81	2,408	Little Pine Lagoon	2.00	3,139	Penstock Lagoon	1.10	2,514	Four Springs Lake	1.68	2,813
6	Little Pine Lagoon	0.47	1,735	Woods Lake	1.77	1,880	Woods Lake	2.78	2,426	Bronte Lagoon	1.49	2,341	Little Pine Lagoon	1.60	2,813
7	Four Springs Lake	0.93	1,706	Bradys Lake	0.85	1,715	Four Springs Lake	1.93	1,950	Four Springs Lake	1.39	2,254	Bronte Lagoon	1.49	2,509
8	Woods Lake	1.50	1,024	Four Springs Lake	0.82	1,682	Bradys Lake	0.89	1,855	Bradys Lake	1.08	2,124	Craigbourne Lake	0.51	2,167
9	Dee Lagoon	1.29	967	Lake Augusta	2.28	1,287	Lake Crescent	0.76	1,712	Lake Crescent	1.45	1,517	Bradys Lake	0.90	1,863
10	Lake Leake	1.01	882	Craigbourne Lake	0.83	1,122	Tooms Lake	0.84	1,379	Huntsman Lake	1.04	1,300	Lake Echo	1.14	1,254
11	Talbots Lagoon	2.15	853	Dee Lagoon	0.77	1,023	Craigbourne Lake	1.06	1,379	Craigbourne Lake	0.81	1,257	Lake Leake	1.3	1,216
12	Tooms Lake	0.74	739	Lake Ada	1.90	1,023	Lake Echo	2.23	1,284	Dee Lagoon	0.93	1,170	Huntsman Lake	1.21	1,102
13	Lake Ada & Ada Lagoon	0.74	711	Lake Crescent	0.61	957	Lake Leake	0.89	1,141	Lake Leake	1.95	1,083	Lake Pedder	1.75	1,064
14	Lake Burbury	1.82	626	Lake Sorell	0.49	957	Huntsman Lake	1.25	1,046	Brushy Lagoon	1.11	1,040	Brushy Lagoon	0.76	950
15	Brushy Lagoon	2.03	597	Talbots Lagoon	2.95	957	Dee Lagoon	1.06	951	Lake Echo	1.68	867	Dee Lagoon	0.83	722

Results for Angler Survey 2021-22 to 2025-26 (rivers)

*Catch rate = all fish species combined, expressed as fish per angler per day

Table 11. Results for Angler Postal 2021-22 to 2025-26 (rivers). Annual ranking based on participation results (angler numbers)

Ranking	Email survey			Email survey			Postal paper survey			Postal paper survey			Postal paper survey		
	Season 2025-26	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2024-25	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2023-24	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2022-23	Catch rate*	Total anglers	Season 2021-22	Catch rate*	Total anglers
1	River Derwent	0.54	1,479	River Derwent	0.38	1,386	River Derwent	0.62	2,854	Meander River	0.70	2,709	River Derwent	0.52	2,889
2	Mersey River	1.27	1,280	Tyenna River	1.75	1,221	Mersey River	0.83	2,140	South Esk River	1.38	2,159	Mersey River	2.39	2,471
3	Meander River	0.74	1,109	Mersey River	0.60	1,188	Meander River	1.13	1,664	Mersey River	0.94	2,159	South Esk River	1.05	2,395
4	South Esk River	0.82	1,052	South Esk River	0.97	1,122	Tyenna River	2.39	1,617	River Derwent	0.71	1,947	Meander River	1.20	1,977
5	Brumbys Creek	0.41	853	Brumbys Creek	0.66	924	South Esk River	1.33	1,569	Brumbys Creek	0.33	1,354	Tyenna River	1.94	1,672
6	Tyenna River	1.66	683	Meander River	1.70	858	Brumbys Creek	0.68	1,094	Tyenna River	3.01	1,143	Brumbys Creek	0.72	1,368
7	North Esk River	1.83	427	River Leven	0.29	528	Huon River	0.25	903	St Patricks River	1.89	1,100	St Patricks River	2.61	1,254
8	St Patricks River	3.05	427	Tinamirakuna / Macquarie River	0.68	525	St Patricks River	1.04	856	Huon River	0.58	804	North Esk River	0.51	1,064
9	Huon River	0.74	341	St Patricks River	0.93	462	Tinamirakuna / Macquarie River	0.83	713	North Esk River	1.44	719	River Leven	0.69	988
10	River Leven	0.56	341	Huon River	0.15	396	North Esk River	0.87	523	Tinamirakuna / Macquarie River	0.51	635	Tinamirakuna / Macquarie River	1.80	950

Creel Data Summary 2025-26

During routine compliance patrols, 3,166 freshwater anglers were interviewed statewide about their daily fishing activities. Interviews included both anglers preparing to fish and those who had already been fishing. The resulting data were used to summarise angler catches.

The table below presents results for the fifteen waters with the highest number of creel interviews. To improve accuracy, only records from anglers who had fished for three or more hours were included (n = 2,311). Fishing effort was standardised to a full fishing day of six hours, equivalent to 1,232 fisher-days.

Records of undersized trout were excluded from the analysis. However, undersized fish represented, on average, approximately eight per cent of brown trout and 13 per cent of rainbow trout in the broader dataset, respectively.

Table 12. Summary of creel data from angler interviews during routine compliance activities. Ranking based on record numbers.

Location	Fishing Effort Data			Brown Trout			Rainbow Trout		
	Total Records	Total Records >= 3 hours	Fishing effort as days	Number captured	Catch per day	Sized released (%)	Number captured	Catch per day	Sized released (%)
Yingina / Great Lake	647	314	361	302	0.8	20	102	0.3	12
Penstock Lagoon	342	183	191	245	1.3	73	6	<0.1	17
Four Springs Lake	286	129	136	121	0.9	46	62	0.5	53
Bronte Lagoon	197	87	85	117	1.4	21	10	0.1	0
Lake Burbury	114	91	131	142	1.1	16	33	0.3	9
Arthurs Lake	101	42	47	31	0.7	13	-	-	-
Lake Sorell	97	35	34	6	0.2	33	0	0	0
Woods Lake	89	46	41	58	1.4	12	-	-	-
Lake Leake	87	62	56	40	0.7	18	8	0.1	38
Tungatinah Lagoon	74	37	54	11	0.6	9	18	0.3	22
Brumbys Creek	60	8	14	1	0.1	0	1	0.1	0
Lake Binney	57	24	27	11	0.4	36	11	0.4	27
Little Pine Lagoon	55	18	16	7	0.4	43	-	-	-
Tooms Lake	53	15	15	2	0.1	0	11	0.8	0
Curries River Reservoir	52	22	24	15	0.6	33	25	1.1	48
Average	**154**	**74 hours**	**82 days**	**74**	**0 .7**	**25%**	**24**	**0 .3**	**19%**

Anglers Access Program

The Anglers Access Program maintains more than 1,400 access and fishing infrastructure assets across Tasmania, providing valuable recreational fishing opportunities for licensed anglers. This includes over 350 kilometres of river access secured through agreements with private landholders, as well as access to all major inland fishing lakes. These opportunities are supported through ongoing partnerships with key stakeholders, including Hydro Tasmania, Tasmanian Irrigation, Forico, Tasmanian Land Conservancy and TasWater.

A key achievement during the 2025–26 financial year was the construction of a new jetty at Lake Crescent, delivered through a collaborative partnership between the IFS, Marine and Safety Tasmania, Central Highlands Council and Anglers Alliance Tasmania.

In partnership with TasWater, six new fishing platforms were also installed along the Curries River Reservoir causeway, improving accessibility for anglers, particularly those who previously experienced difficulty navigating the large rocks placed during bank stabilisation works in 2025.

The program also partnered with Landcare Tasmania to develop new interpretive signage throughout the Leven River catchment. The signage complements existing infrastructure by highlighting the river's natural values and providing information about local Landcare groups, encouraging anglers to become involved in river conservation activities. Signage to be installed in early 2026-27.

In collaboration with SFM Lenah Estate and the Derwent Catchment Project, the IFS continued to support the Willow Warriors program, planting more than 1,400 trees along the upper Tyenna River to expand a 40-metre-wide riparian buffer. Mechanical willow removal was also completed across three priority reaches, removing hazardous willows that contributed to blockages, reducing flood risk and improving river function.

Throughout the year, Anglers Access brochures and fact sheets were updated to ensure anglers had access to current and accurate information. New access agreements were secured with landowners on the Mersey, Leven and Nive rivers, as well as a farm dam in southern Tasmania. In addition, maintenance and upgrades to key access roads, walking tracks, public toilets and other fishing infrastructure were undertaken across the state.



Jetty installed at Lake Crescent

Marketing, communication, and promotions

Throughout 2025-26, staff from the IFS attended and / or presented at 53 angling clubs and association meetings.

In addition, the IFS provided support, in the form of attendance and supply of fish to five junior angling events held at the state's three recognised junior angling dams during 2025-26 (refer also to National Gone Fishing Day).

During September 2025 and January 2026, the IFS held a series of freshwater angling forums in Hobart, Launceston, Devonport and Miena.

Tagged Trout Promotion

The Tagged Trout Promotion was supported by a series of IFS wb-page news stories, social media posts (sponsored), media releases, newspaper articles and ABC radio interviews in July 2025. Refer to Policy Commitment section on page 10.

Website and Instagram

The IFS website remained the primary channel for providing information to our stakeholder base, with educational and promotional material posted as well as 119 news stories.

The IFS Instagram site was mainly used for promotional trout fishing posts, with some general fishery management matters included. During the 2025-26 period, account followers increased by 14.5 per cent to 3,448 from 3,027.

Angler Diary App

The Angler Diary App is a feature of the Infish mobile app, providing anglers an easy way to record their fishing effort and catch. It allows anglers to provide information to help manage the fishery. There were 2,634 entries from 360 anglers at 150 locations in 2025-26.

National Gone Fishing Day

On Sunday 19 October 2025, National Gone Fishing Day was an angling licence free day across the state. Fishing opportunities for junior angling were coordinated through local angling clubs and supported by Anglers Alliance Tasmania and the IFS. Key events were held at Bushy Park, Taylors Dam and Lake Dulverton.

Fish were tagged for the Hydro Tasmania / Cressy Trout Expo at Brumbys Creek. Many families and first-time anglers were in attendance. Over 700 people attended and plenty of fish caught. Seven lucky anglers managed to catch a $50 tagged fish.

Trout Weekend

Due to low water levels in previous years, the annual Trout Weekend, originally scheduled for May 2025, has been moved to October 2026 to coincide with the rainbow trout spawning season, providing visitors with the opportunity to experience this unique natural event.



Devonport Freshwater Angling Forum

Events supported

July 2025

- Launceston Angling Club Trout Tuesday event, Guest (Launceston)
- Van Diemen Fly Fishers Club, Guest Speaker (Launceston)
- North West Fly Fishers, Speaker and chaperone around Surrey Hills Estate (Forico Property)
- Reel Keen Fishing Club, Presenter (Port Sorell)
- New Norfolk Licensed Anglers Association, Guest Speaker (New Norfolk)
- Bridgewater Anglers Association Annual General Meeting, Speaker (Claremont)

August 2025

- Oatlands Heritage and Bullock Festival, Exhibitor (Oatlands)
- Cornelius Competition Memorial Fishing, Speaker (Bronte Lagoon)
- Break O' Day Fishing Club, Presenter (Scamander)
- Devonport Junior Angling Club, Taylors Dam Junior Fishing Day, Representative
- Anglers Alliance Tasmania, Guest Speaker (Miena)
- Trout Guides and Lodges Tasmania meeting (Hobart)
- Westbury Fishing Club Inc. AGM, Speaker (Westbury)

September 2025

- Kingborough Anglers Association Inc., Guest Speaker (Kingston)

October 2025

- National Gone Fishing Day (Brumbys Creek, Taylors Dam, Bushy Park)
- Bridgewater Anglers Association Inc., Guest Speaker (Claremont)
- Yingina / Great Lake Tie In, Speaker and display (Miena)
- Van Dieman Fly Fishers Club, Speaker (Newstead)
- Break O' Day Fishing Club, Speaker (Scamander)
- Fly Tyers Club, Presenter (Hobart)

November 2025

- Australian Society for Fish Biology Tas members social event, host and event organiser (Hobart)
- Highlands Bushfest, Exhibitor (Bothwell)
- Van Dieman Fly Fishers Club, Speaker (Newstead)
- Anglers Alliance Tasmania, Guest Speaker (Miena)
- Anglers Alliance Tasmania, Insect Sampling (Penstock)

December 2025

- Ulverstone Anglers Ladies Day and Kids Day, Representative (Penguin)

January 2026

- Bronte Fly Fishing School, Guest Speaker

February 2026

- Ulverston Angling Club, Guest Speaker (Ulverstone)
- Cawthron Institute- Emerging Aquatic Disease: Kanakana (lamprey) Reddening Syndrome Workshop (Virtual), Collaborator
- Inland Fisheries Advisory Council, Presentation (New Norfolk)

March 2026

- Anglers Alliance Tasmania, Guest Speaker (Miena)
- Royal Life Saving Society Community Pulse training Break O'Day Fishing Club (Scamander)
- North West Fly Fishers Club, Guest (Burnie)

April 2026

- Willow Warriors, Field Day (Tyenna)

May 2026

- Agfest 2026, Exhibitor (Carrick)
- Ulverstone Angling Club, Speaker (Ulverstone)
- North West Fly Fishers Club, Speaker (Burnie)
- Anglers Alliance Tasmania, Speaker (Miena)
- Royal Life Saving Society Community Pulse training Tas Fly Tiers Club (Hobart)
- Royal Life Saving Society Community Pulse training Southern Tasmanian Licensed Anglers Association (Hobart)
- Inland Fisheries Advisory Council, Presentation (New Norfolk)

June 2026

- North West Fly Fishers Club, Speaker (Burnie)
- Deloraine Angling Club, Guest (Deloraine)
- Devonport Fly Fishing Club, Guest (Devonport)
- Southern Tasmanian Licensed Anglers Association AGM, Guest Speaker (Claremont)
- Launceston Angling Club AGM, Presenter (Launceston)
- Longford Angling Club, Guest Speaker (Longford)
- Royal Life Saving Society Community Pulse training Quamby Fly Fishers (Meander)
- Enhancing Connectivity and River Health for Giant Freshwater Crayfish (GFC) Workshop (NRM North), Presenter
- Partnerships in the Aquaculture of Lampreys (PALs) Subgroup, Presenter (Virtual)
- NRM South Marine and Aquatic Biosecurity Workshop, Presenter

Strategic goal:
We have advocated and acted on behalf of freshwater ecosystems

Tyenna River Recovery Plan

The IFS collaborated with the Derwent Catchment Project (DCP) to implement the Tyenna River Recovery Plan. The IFS provides annual funding of $11,000 cash and in-kind support. The 10-year recovery plan for the river has progressed with willow removal in the upper catchment which is almost complete and progressing downstream of Maydena. Upstream of Maydena, timber debris has been removed from the river and replanting the riparian zone with native vegetation has commenced. Willow Warriors volunteers, anglers and community groups including kayakers provide an important labour source for working bees. In support of this important work the IFS has maintained a MoU with SFM Forest Management to create 40 m riparian buffer zones on plantations that pre-date the Forest Practices Code.

Clean Up Australia Business Clean Up Day

IFS staff participated in Clean Up Australia Business Clean Up Day. The River Derwent and Brushy Lagoon were the focus for clean up this year.

Lakes Sorell and Crescent Water Management Plan

The IFS is a member of the Consultative Group participating in the statutory review of the lakes *Sorell and Crescent Water Management Plan 2005*. While the update of the plan has not been completed, in consultation with NRE Tasmania, the IFS continues to maintain responsibility for managing water releases between Lake Sorell and Lake Crescent in support of desired environmental outcomes outlined in the Management Plan and continues to liaise with NRE Tasmania on water management within the lakes.

National Freshwater Vertebrate and Invertebrate Working Group

The IFS represented Tasmania on the working group participating in several meetings through the year.

NRE Tas Rural Water Use Strategy

The IFS continued to provide feedback on the Rural Water Use Strategy and its program of work, including provision of data to several sub-projects.

NRE Tas Rural Water Roundtable

The IFS was represented on the committee.

IFS Sustainability Group

The IFS has developed a sustainability group consisting of four staff members. The group meets monthly to discuss ways in which the IFS can help to improve the environmental sustainability of our operations.

The group worked collaboratively through monthly meetings to develop and implement the IFS Sustainability Action Plan 2025-2027. Key IFS sustainability initiatives include:

- Solar arrays at New Norfolk and Salmon Ponds sites
- Litter collection kits deployed in all IFS vehicles for field staff to clean up fishing locations
- Participation in Business Clean Up Australia Day
- Waste reduction measures for New Norfolk office (FOGO bins, heater timers, light sensors, battery and printer cartridge recycling, single use plastic recycling)
- Reduction in printing and promotion of electronic alternatives (Angling code, Anglers Access Brochures etc.)

Strategic goal:
The Inland Fisheries Service is respected and valued as a responsive, proactive, accessible and dynamic organisation

Building and reviewing strategic partnerships

The existing funding Deed between the IFS and Anglers Alliance Tasmania was replaced with a three-year funding agreement in September 2024 as part of the Government's 2024 policy commitment. Funding is being provided to AAT to:

- Provide support to, and where possible enter supply agreements for fish supply with commercial hatcheries for junior fishing education programs.
- Ongoing management of a network of existing webcams so that anglers can check the weather conditions for free.
- Installation and ongoing maintenance of additional webcams at other high visitation fishing waters.
- Meeting approved operational costs related to the administration of Anglers Alliance Tasmania.
- Contributions to high priority research projects.
- Facilitating communication between the IFS and anglers fishing Tasmanian inland waters.
- Providing the IFS an opportunity to attend quarterly AAT committee meetings.
- Providing feedback on IFS initiatives.
- Seeking funding opportunities with the IFS and other bodies to develop and improve the inland recreational fishery, access to the fishery and improvement to community amenities at high visitation fishing waters.
- Working with the IFS on marketing and promoting the fishery and other initiatives aimed at increasing participation in recreational fishing.
- Coordinating and managing the administration and operation of the Tasmanian Angling Hall of Fame.

Throughout 2025-26 the IFS maintained MoU with our key stakeholders:

- Births Deaths and Marriages, Department of Justice
- Client Update, Services, Service Tasmania
- Forico Pty Limited
- Hydro Tasmania
- SFM Forest Management
- Tasmanian Irrigation
- Van Dairy Group

The IFS remains a member of 26Ten.

Scientific and technical advice

The IFS provided a range of advice on environmental and technical issues to a range of stakeholders and professional partnerships. These included NRE Tas, Forest Practices Authority, Hydro Tasmania, Sustainable Timber Tasmania, NRM regional bodies and Tasmanian Irrigation across a range of projects.

IFS involvement with State and National policy and working groups

Australian Society for Fish Biology (ASFB) Tasmanian State Representative

Represented on the committee

ASFB Conference Organising Committee

Member

ASFB Alien Fishes Committee

Co-chair

ASFB Threatened Fishes Committee

Tasmanian State Representative

National Strategy for non-indigenous freshwater fish and invertebrates meeting

Tasmanian State Representative

Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania Child and Youth Safety

Represented on the committee

Derwent Estuary Program Catchment Working Group

Member

Giant Freshwater Crayfish Statewide Reference Committee

Member

Rivers to Ramsar Project Technical Advisory Committee (NRM South)

Member

Right to Information enquiries

The IFS did not receive any right to information enquiries.

Staff support and development

The IFS is responsible for staff performance, wellbeing, safety and completed performance management reviews. A range of training resources were made available to staff during the year including:

- Reportable Conduct Training (NRE Tas)
- Respectful Workplace Training (NRE Tas)
- Performance and Development Training (NRE Tas)
- Keeping Children Safe (NRE Tas)
- Introduction to myDAS Workflow and Workspace (NRE Tas)
- Managing, Protecting and Disclosing Government Information (NRE Tas)
- NRE Tas Induction Program (NRE Tas)
- Work Health Safety and Wellbeing (NRE Tas)
- Emergency Warden and Chief Warden Training (Complete Fire Safety)
- Mandatory Policies (NRE Tas)
- Protective Security Training (NRE Tas)
- Cyber Safety Essentials (NRE Tas)
- Respectful Workplace Training (Swinburne Edge)
- Work Health Safety and Wellbeing (WHSW) Overview (NRE Tas)
- Recognise. Respond. Refer (NRE Tas)
- Family Violence Training (NRE Tas)
- AI Usage Training (NRE Tas)
- Five essentials for a mentally healthy workplace (Positive Solutions)
- Maintaining optimal physical wellbeing to boost work performance (Positive Solutions)
- Being the Accidental Counsellor in the Workplace (Positive Solutions)
- Simple Strategies for Self-Care (Positive Solutions)
- Self-care during the winter season (Positive Solutions)
- Hydro Tasmania Induction Training (Hydro Tasmania)
- Petuna Contractor Induction (Petuna)
- Aspiring Leaders Program, Workshop #1 (NRE Tas)
- Authorised officer training (PWS and DPIWE)
- Project and Change Management Framework Training (NRE Tas)

Refresher first-aid courses were completed, and voluntary flu and COVID-19 vaccinations supported.

There were monthly meetings for staff and managers as forums for communication and discussion of operational efficiencies.

Publications

- IFS on a Page - Summary
- Inland Fisheries Service Annual Report 2024-25
- IFS Compliance Annual Report 2024-25
- Bronte Lagoon Redfin Perch Report – April 2025
- Woods Lake Fisheries Performance Assessment – November 2024
- Big Waterhouse Lagoon Fisheries Performance Assessment – October 2024
- Central Highlands Fish Trap Report 2024 – Brown Trout
- Stocking Report – 2024
- Brushy Lagoon Fisheries Performance Assessment – August 2025
- South Riana Lake Fisheries Performance Assessment – August 2025
- Little Pine Lagoon Fisheries Performance Assessment Overview – October 2025
- Four Springs Redfin Perch Report – May 2025
- Curries River Reservoir Fisheries Performance Assessment – December 2025
- Tooms Lake Fisheries Performance Assessment Overview – December 2025
- Keeping it Clean – A Tasmanian field hygiene manual to prevent the spread of freshwater pests and pathogens
- Permissible Imports List – April 2026
- Lake Leake Fisheries Performance Assessment – March 2026
- Native Fish Conservation Annual Report 2024-25
- Steppes Tench Distribution and Management Report – May 2024
- Tasmanian Inland Fishing Code 2026-27

Staff publications/interviews

- Lateral Lines Australian Society for Fish Biology Newsletter, 55: (1) July 2025 - Estuary Perch in Tasmania feature article and Tasmania State Reports.
- 3 July 2025 - ABC Central Coast Radio- The Big Fish: Protecting Tasmania's Secret Estuary Perch Population.
- 28 July 2025 – ABC Northern Tasmania and ABC Drive Hobart – Tagged Trout Promotion interviews.
- R. Morimoto, G. Zhang, O.S. Thomas, M.F. Docker, J.L. Yick, F. Devloo-Delva, J. Swann, D. Diekhoff, & T. Boehm. Lamprey FOXN1 rescues the block of thymic epithelial cell development in the mouse Foxn1-deficient thymic rudiment, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. U.S.A. 122 (48) e2520664122, **https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2520664122** (2025).
- Lateral Lines Australian Society for Fish Biology Newsletter, 55: (2) December 2025 - Tasmania State Reports and Tasmanian ASFB November 2025 Social Event write up.
- 25 March 2026 - ABC Radio Northern Tasmania, Creature Feature - redfin perch.
- Our Common Place. (October 2025). Tasmania in Action: Case Studies for Conservation Learning. Published by the Tasmanian Land Conservancy. Hobart, Tasmania. **Tasmania in Action: Case Studies for Conservation Learning - Eradication of common carp from lakes Crescent and Sorell, Tasmania**
- Jense C, Deagle BE, Freeman R, Burridge CP (2025) Historical impacts of invasive species may not always be what they seem: a genetic perspective from an endangered native species. Diversity and Distributions 31:e70072.
- Horner K, Jense C, Ng EYX, Freeman R, Deagle BE, Burridge CP (2026) Evaluating genetic diversity, population structure, and introgression in insurance populations of one of Australia's most threatened species: the freshwater fish *Galaxias pedderensis*. Conservation Genetics 27:e9.
- Deagle B, Freeman R, Devloo-Delva F, Jense C, Liu K, Shao C, Burridge CP (submitted) Conservation genomics of natural and translocated populations of the Swan galaxias (*Galaxias fontanus*) an endangered Tasmanian freshwater fish Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems.
- Widawski, V. & Styger, J. (2026) Exploring enablers of climate adaptation: Swan galaxias case study. Adapt Land & Sea Case study. National Environmental Science Program.
- NRM South (2026) Saving a Native Tassie Fish: What Anglers Need to Know About the Swan galaxias.

Strategic goal:
The Inland Fisheries Service is financially sustainable

Finance and administration

The IFS uses corporate credit cards for operational purchases subject to departmental policies and guidelines.

At 30 June 2026, 16 cards were issued to staff with a combined credit limit of $100,598.

This year concluded with a comprehensive result of $293,140 (surplus vs budget) compared to a predicted budget deficit of $72,000. This improved result was mainly due to the revaluation gain on investment properties, land and buildings, a decrease in operating expenses, and improved interest rates on term deposits.

Cash holdings decreased during the year to $890,789 mainly due to the timing of the maturity of the term deposits. Interest income increased by $81,115 compared to the budget due to increased interest rates. Income from investment properties and other leases increased from $649,588 in 2024-25 to $654,147 in 2025-26. The increase was based on the application of CPI.

A total of 331 five season licences were issued this year. The total number of five season licences held was 2,252. The IFS recognises the total proceeds of these licences in the year of receipt. A total of $130,680 was received in 2025-26 for five-season licences of this amount $104,544 is applicable to future years. The IFS is holding a total of $318,786 of revenue applicable to future years.

At 30 June 2026, the IFS has seven telephone land lines, 12 mobile phones, 13 data packs, one iPad and one air card. The IFS also funds the data pack associated with the Liawenee Trap remote camera and the temperature sensor at the Salmon Ponds.

Asset management

The IFS disposed of five vehicles in 2025-26. At 30 June 2026, eight vehicles were in the fleet consisting of two Toyota Landcruiser Flat trays, one Toyota Hilux, two Isuzu D-Max Crew and three Ford Ranger Dual Cabs. The vehicle fleet has a book value of $360,666 and an original cost of $473,695. There is a fleet of four vessels ranging from 4.2 m to 5.8 m which includes the electrofishing vessel. The boat fleet had a combined purchase cost of $270,757 and a closing book value of $140,571 after depreciation.

Risk management

A risk management strategy is incorporated into the IFS Corporate Plan 2022-27 and operational and business plans that guide the annual activity program.

In addition, the Inland Fisheries Advisory Council review key risks and mitigation strategies at each meeting.

Grants, contributions, and contractors

The grant from the State Government to the IFS in the form of an Administered Payment via NRE Tas was

$1,601,000. This amount consisted of the annual contribution of $1,243,000 and an additional $358,000 to meet Policy Commitments. The $358,000 was comprised of $25,000 for the junior licence fee waiver, $50,000 for Tagged Trout Promotion, and $75,000 for Angling Alliance Tasmania funding and $208,000 for operational support.

As in previous years several local contractors were engaged to provide services including cleaning, building maintenance, electrical and plumbing. Contractors also provided security, field, fire, grounds, and air-conditioning maintenance. Tasmanian contractors were used for all trade services.

Angling licences

Angling licence distribution and payment

Angling licences are sold through private agents, Service Tasmania and online.

Renewals of angling licences are sent through direct mail and email to full-season licence holders. There were 4,950 renewal notices posted and 12,644 emailed, resulting in 11,573 anglers renewing.

Angling licence structure and fees

The Tasmanian Government is continuing its commitment to encouraging junior anglers to enjoy recreational fishing by keeping junior angling licences fee free. Anglers aged 14 to 17 years (inclusive) could continue to fish in Tasmania's inland lakes and waterways with a fee-free junior angling licence.

Following the success of the 2024-25 Young Adult Promotion, the IFS continued to support young adult anglers by subsidising the full cost of an adult angling licence. As a result, anglers aged 18 to 21 years could obtain an adult licence at a discounted cost, helping to make recreational fishing more accessible and encouraging ongoing participation in the sport.

Table 13. Tasmanian angling licence structure and fees for the past five years

Angling licence type	2025-26	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22
Adult licence	$93.50	$91.50	$87.00	$79.50	$75.50
Junior licence	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Pensioner licence	$51.50	$50.00	$48.00	$44.00	$41.50
Senior Licence	$74.00	$72.50	$69.00	$63.50	$60.00
Young Adult Licence	$51.50	$50.00	n/a	n/a	n/a
28 day licence	$74.00	$72.50	$69.00	$63.50	$60.00
7 day licence	$47.50	$46.50	$44.50	$40.50	$38.50
48 hour licence	$28.50	$28.00	$26.50	$25.00	$23.00
extra rod - adult	$19.00	$18.50	$17.50	$17.00	$15.50
extra rod - other	$9.50	$9.00	$8.50	$8.00	$7.70
Adult licence 5 season	$467.50	$457.50	$436.00	$399.00	$360.00
Senior licence 5 season	$372.00	$362.50	$347.00	317.50	$290.00
Pension licence 5 season	$257.50	$250.00	$240.00	220.00	$200.00

Trend in angling licences held

The number of angling licences held, including five-season licences was 23,240. This was a decrease of 3.9 per cent compared with 2024-25. Adult licence numbers experienced the largest decline, falling by 7.9 per cent. In contrast, junior licence numbers remained relatively stable and continued to perform strongly compared with the 2024-25 season, reflecting the ongoing success of initiatives aimed at encouraging participation by junior anglers.

Table 14. Number of angling licences held per licence category over the past five years

Angling licence type	2025-26	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22
Adult licence	8,362	9,049	10,507	11,069	11,502
Junior licence	2,017	2,022	1,950	1,725	1,510
Pensioner licence	5,221	5,496	5,760	5,902	6,125
Young Adult Licence	644	655	-	-	-
Senior licence	2,141	2,241	2,341	2,174	2,029
28 day licence	725	702	1,021	959	832
7 day licence	1,388	1,368	1,528	1,669	1,414
48 hour licence	2,742	2,633	2,994	2,667	2,252
Total	**23,240**	**24,166**	**26,101**	**26,165**	**25,664**

Angler origin

Table 15. Number of licences issued to Tasmanian, interstate, and overseas anglers in 2025-26

Angling licence type	Tasmanian	Interstate	International	Total
Adult licence	6,939	440	15	7,394
Junior licence	1,828	188	1	2,017
Pensioner licence	4,030	361	-	4,391
Senior Licence	1,296	391	-	1,687
Young Adult Licence	593	46	5	644
Adult licence 5 season	873	95	-	968
Pension licence 5 season	805	25	-	830
Senior licence 5 season	381	73	-	454
28 day licence	75	604	46	725
7 day licence	261	1,031	96	1,388
48 hour licence	1,545	1,025	172	2,742
Total	**18,626**	**4,279**	**335**	**23,240**

Table 16. Number of angling licences issued per country over the past five years

Country	2025-26	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22
Canada	22	20	17	11	3
France	11	11	11	6	1
Germany	20	14	19	23	2
Hong Kong	2	1	2	1	0
Ireland	1	3	2	3	0
Japan	8	13	7	3	0
Netherlands	4	2	2	2	2
New Zealand	20	22	14	21	1
Singapore	15	13	3	10	8
South Africa	4	2	1	2	0
Switzerland	15	6	8	6	0
United Kingdom	65	36	35	28	7
USA	121	82	109	76	10
Other	27	28	41	23	2
Total	**335**	**253**	**271**	**215**	**36**

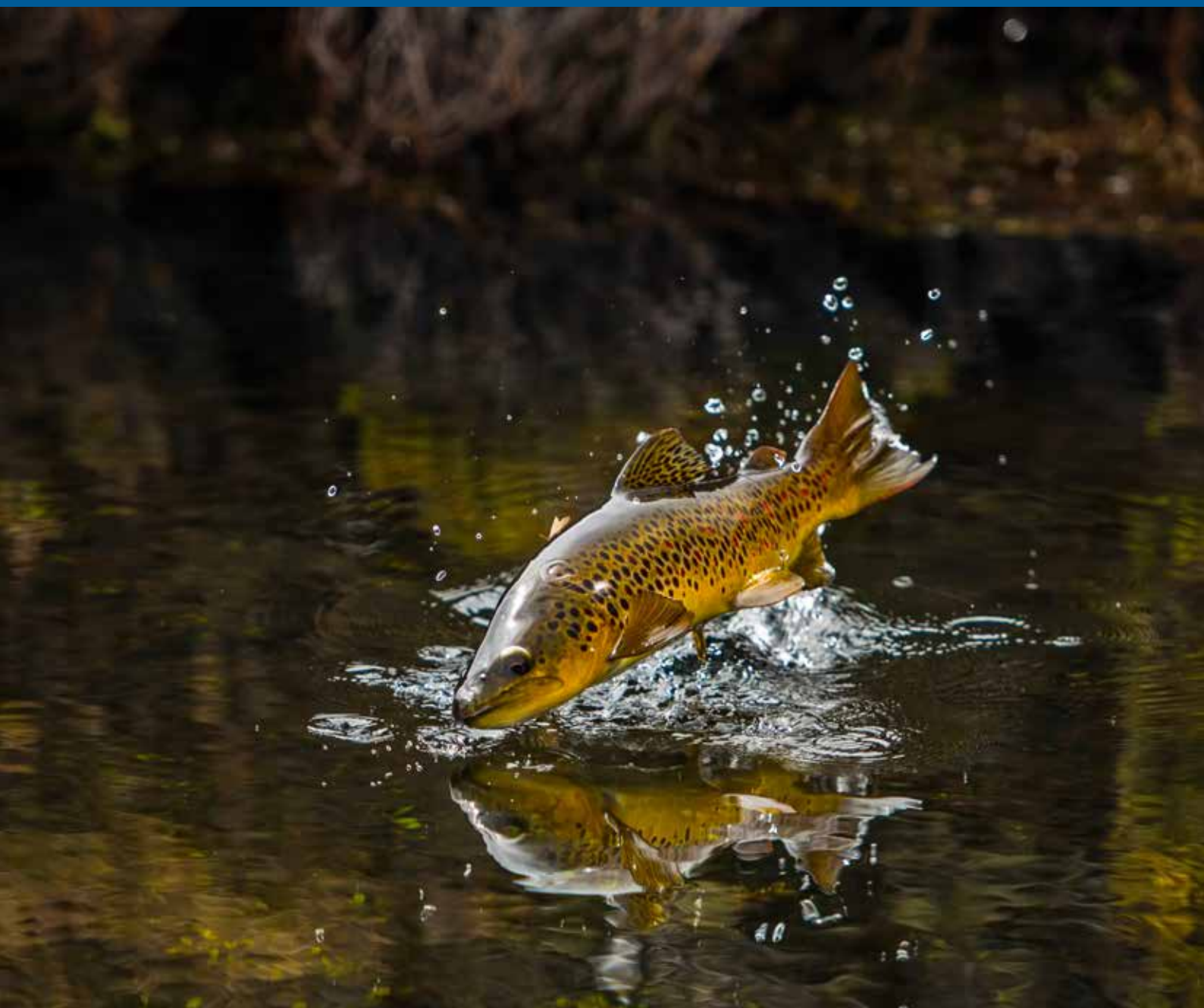
Table 17. Number of licences held by Tasmanian, interstate and overseas anglers in the past five years

Angler origin	2025-26	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22
Tasmania	18,626	19,577	20,911	20,879	21,632
Victoria	1,509	1,561	1,844	1,998	1,688
New South Wales	1,047	1,119	1,269	1,393	1,035
Queensland	884	839	972	873	714
South Australia	286	295	304	293	242
Western Australia	389	360	351	330	168
Australian Capital Territory	117	102	122	117	94
Northern Territory	47	60	57	67	55
International	335	253	271	215	36
Total	**23,240**	**24,166**	**26,101**	**26,165**	**25,664**

Whitebait licence

The 2025 whitebait season opened on 1 October and closed on 11 November 2025. There were 515 whitebait licences sold for the six-week period compared to 618 in the previous year. The cost of a whitebait licence was $38.00. Total revenue from whitebait licences was $19,570 compared to $22,866 in 2024-25.

Financial Section



INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Notes	2026 Budget $	2026 Actual $	2025 Actual $
Revenue from Continuing Operations				
Angling and other licence fees	3	1,558,000	1,630,929	1,768,436
Grants - Administered payment	4	1,601,000	1,601,000	1,635,000
External grants and reimbursements	2.1(a),4	281,000	354,681	544,970
Sales of goods and services	2.1(b),5	836,000	654,147	649,588
Interest revenue	2.1(c)	110,000	191,115	221,225
Other revenue	2.1(d),5	48,000	55,551	57,683
Total revenue from continuing operations		**4,434,000**	**4,487,423**	**4,876,902**
Net gain / (loss) on sale of non-financial assets	2.1(e),10(a)	44,000	21,231	62,892
Net gain / (loss) on revaluation of investment property	2.1(f),10(a)	-	158,473	-
Total income from continuing operations		**4,478,000**	**4,667,127**	**4,939,794**
Expenses from Continuing Operations				
Employee benefits	6	2,784,000	2,773,279	2,579,007
Operating costs	7	1,540,000	1,474,213	1,429,558
Depreciation expenses	10(b)	226,000	225,088	199,215
Adjustment to asset balances		-	-	-
Total expenses from continuing operations		**4,550,000**	**4,472,580**	**4,207,780**
Net result from continuing operations		**(72,000)**	**194,547**	**732,014**
Other Comprehensive Income				
Items that will not be reclassified to net result in subsequent periods				
Net gain / (loss) on revaluation of land	2.1(g)	-	(10,000)	-
Net gain / (loss) on revaluation of buildings	2.1(h)	-	108,593	-
Total other comprehensive income		**-**	**98,593**	**-**
Comprehensive result		**(72,000)**	**293,140**	**732,014**

This Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the accounts. Budget information refers to original estimates and has not been subject to audit. Explanations of material variances between budget and actual outcomes are provided in Note 2 of the accompanying notes.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as at 30 June 2026

	Notes	2026 Budget $	2026 Actual $	2025 Actual $
Financial Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	2.2(a),16(c)	3,544,000	890,789	879,933
Investments	2.2(a),16(c)	170,000	3,049,912	2,936,236
Trade and other receivables	2.2(b),17	120,000	134,328	148,651
Total financial assets		**3,834,000**	**4,075,029**	**3,964,820**
Non-Financial Assets				
Property, plant and equipment	2.2(c), 9	5,652,000	6,147,855	5,921,498
Infrastructure	9	974,000	910,269	939,889
Investment property	2.2(d), 10	4,733,000	4,975,000	4,775,000
Work in progress	2.2 (e), 10	-	46,409	137,674
Total non-financial assets		**11,359,000**	**12,079,533**	**11,774,061**
Total assets		**15,193,000**	**16,154,562**	**15,738,881**
Liabilities				
Trade and other payables	2.2(f),18	181,000	157,281	156,357
Employee benefits	15	733,000	870,780	749,163
Total liabilities		**914,000**	**1,028,061**	**905,520**
Net assets		**14,279,000**	**15,126,501**	**14,833,361**
Equity				
Reserves	2.2(g),12	5,898,000	5,996,488	5,897,895
Accumulated funds	13	5,181,000	5,930,159	5,735,612
Contributed capital	14	3,200,000	3,199,854	3,199,854
Total equity		**14,279,000**	**15,126,501**	**14,833,361**

This Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the accounts. Budget information refers to original estimates and has not been subject to audit. Explanations of material variances between budget and actual outcomes are provided in Note 2 of the accompanying notes.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Notes	2026 Budget $	2026 Actual $	2025 Actual $
Cash Flows From Operating Activities				
Receipts from customers		2,442,000	2,340,610	2,574,792
GST received	2.3(a)	146,000	169,207	154,135
Payments to suppliers and employees		(4,324,000)	(4,205,960)	(4,160,923)
GST paid	2.3(b)	(82,000)	(100,448)	(108,618)
Receipts from government		1,882,000	1,955,681	2,205,222
Interest received	2.3(c)	110,000	217,705	217,521
Net cash provided by (used) in operating activities	16(a)	**174,000**	**376,795**	**882,130**
Cash Flows From Investing Activities				
Payments for plant, equipment and vessels	2.3(d)	(100,000)	(366,651)	(289,033)
Payments for investment property	2.3(e)	-	(41,527)	-
Proceeds from disposal of plant and equipment	2.3(f)	100,000	159,762	465,761
Payments for investments	2.3(g)	-	(2,250,000)	(5,899,014)
Proceeds from investments	2.3(g)	48,000	2,132,476	3,289,542
Net cash provided by (used) in investing activities		**48,000**	**(365,939)**	**(2,432,744)**
Net increase (decrease) in cash held		222,000	10,856	(1,550,614)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		3,322,000	879,933	2,430,547
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	16(b)	**3,544,000**	**890,789**	**879,933**

This Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the accounts. Budget information refers to original estimates and has not been subject to audit. Explanations of material variances between budget and actual outcomes are provided in Note 2 of the accompanying notes.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Notes	Contributed Equity $	Reserves $	Accumulated Funds $	Total Equity $
Balance as at 1 July 2025		**3,199,854**	**5,897,895**	**5,735,612**	**14,833,361**
Net result	13	-	-	194,547	194,547
Other comprehensive income	12	-	98,593	-	98,593
Balance as at 30 June 2026		**3,199,854**	**5,996,488**	**5,930,159**	**15,126,501**

	Notes	Contributed Equity $	Reserves $	Accumulated Funds $	Total Equity $
Balance as at 1 July 2024		**3,199,854**	**5,897,895**	**5,003,599**	**14,101,348**
Net result	13	-	-	732,013	732,013
Other comprehensive income		-	-	-	-
Balance as at 30 June 2025		**3,199,854**	**5,897,895**	**5,735,612**	**14,833,361**

The Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the accounts.

Note 2.1 Statement of Comprehensive Income

Statement of Comprehensive Income variances are considered material where the variance exceeds the greater of 10 per cent of budget estimate.

	Note	2026 Budget $'000	2026 Actual $'000	Variance $'000	Variance %
External grants and reimbursements	2.1(a)	281	355	74	26%
Sales of goods and services	2.1(b)	836	654	(182)	(22%)
Interest revenue	2.1(c)	110	191	81	74%
Other revenue	2.1(d)	48	56	8	17%
Net gain / (loss) on sale of non-financial assets	2.1(e)	21	44	23	110%
Net gain / (loss) on revaluation of investment property	2.1(f)	-	158	158	100%
Net gain / (loss) on revaluation of land	2.1(g)	-	(100)	(100)	(100%)
Net gain / (loss) on revaluation of buildings	2.1(h)	-	109	109	100%

2.1(a) Variance resulting from a misalignment between part of the external grants and reimbursements and sales of goods and services in the budget.

2.1(b) As per 2.1(a).

2.1(c) Variance resulting from increased term deposits rates.

2.1(d) Variance resulting from increased CPI adjustments for investment properties.

2.1(e) Variance resulting from timing of disposals of motor vehicles.

2.1(f) Variance resulting from revaluation of the investment properties.

2.1(g) Variance resulting from revaluation of land.

2.1(h) Variance resulting from revaluation of buildings.

Note 2.2 Statement of Financial Position

Budget estimates for the 2025-26 Statement of Financial Position were compiled prior to the completion of the actual outcomes for 2024-25. As a result, the actual variance from the original budget will be impacted by the difference between the estimated and actual opening balances for 2024-25. The following variance analysis therefore includes major movements between the 30 June 2025 and 30 June 2026 actual balances.

	Note	2026 Budget $'000	2026 Actual $'000	2025 Actual $,000	Budget Variance $'000	Actual Variance $'000
Cash and cash equivalents	2.2(a)	3,544	891	880	(2,653)	11
Investments	2.2(a)	170	3,050	2,936	2,880	114
Trade and other receivables	2.2(b)	120	134	149	14	(15)
Property, plant and equipment	2.2(c)	5,652	6,148	5,921	496	227
Investment property	2.2(d)	4,733	4,975	4,775	242	200
Work in progress	2.2(e)	-	46	138	46	(92)
Trade and other payables	2.2(f)	181	157	156	(24)	1
Accumulated funds	2.2(g)	5,181	5,930	5,898	749	194

2.2(a) Variance resulting from movement between the two items based on the timing of the investment and the maturity date.

2.2(b) Variance resulting from the timing of the invoicing and receipts of payments from customers.

2.2(c) Variance resulting from the acquisitions and capitalisation of vessels and the security system at the New Norfolk office.

2.2(d) Variance resulting from revaluation of the investment properties.

2.2(e) Variance resulting from transfers from work in progress to assets for vessel and the security system at the New Norfolk office.

2.2(f) Variance resulting from the timing of the invoicing and making payments to suppliers.

2.2(g) Variance resulting from revaluation of investment properties, land and buildings.

Note 2.3 Statement of Cash Flows

Statement of Cash Flows variances are considered material where the variance is greater than 10 per cent of budget estimate.

	Note	2026 Budget $'000	2026 Actual $'000	Variance $'000	Variance %
GST received	2.3(a)	146	169	23	16%
GST paid	2.3(b)	(82)	(100)	(18)	22%
Interest received	2.3(c)	110	217	107	97%
Payments for plant, equipment and vessels	2.3(d)	(100)	(367)	(267)	267%
Payments for investment property	2.3(e)	-	(42)	(42)	(100%)
Proceeds from disposal of plant and equipment	2.3(f)	100	160	60	60%
Payments for investments	2.3(g)	-	(2,250)	(2,250)	100%
Proceeds from investments	2.3(g)	48	2,132	2,084	4343%

2.3(a) Variance resulting from a higher than budgeted business activity level.

2.3(b) Variance resulting from activity level associated with acquisitions of assets.

2.3(c) Variance resulting from a higher interest rate of term deposits.

2.3(d) Variance resulting from activity associated with acquisitions of assets.

2.3(e) Variance resulting from capital project associated with investment property.

2.3(f) Variance resulting from disposal of asset disposals.

2.3(g) Variance reflecting the change of the term deposits over 6 months and cash based on the timing of the investment and date of maturity.

Note 3 Angling and other Licence Revenue	2026 $	2025 $
Angling Licences	1,541,009	1,581,589
Other Licences	63,168	160,967
Permits and Registrations	26,751	25,881
	1,630,928	**1,768,436**

In 2013-2014 the IFS introduced a five-season licence. The IFS recognises the total proceeds of these licences in the year of receipt. A total of $130,680 was received in 2025-26 for five-season licences of this amount $104,544 is applicable to future years. The IFS is holding a total of $318,787 of revenue applicable to future years.

Note 4 Grants

Government contribution - operating	1,601,000	1,635,000
External grants and reimbursements	354,681	544,970
	1,955,681	**2,179,970**

Note 5 Sales of Goods and Services

Rents from operational properties	272,631	272,532
Investment property rental	381,516	377,056
	654,147	**649,588**
Other Revenue		
General sales and miscellaneous revenue	48,470	49,812
Fines	7,080	7,871
	55,551	**57,683**

Note 6 Employee Benefits

Salaries	1,988,984	1,940,001
Superannuation	342,581	328,041
Leave	407,473	261,673
Other	34,243	49,291
	2,773,279	**2,579,007**

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 7 Operating Costs	2026 $	2025 $
Advertising promotions	38,971	48,757
Audit fees	26,500	25,000
Conferences and training	9,782	13,435
Contract services	29,348	100,604
Contractors / consultants	17,524	9,545
Equipment maintenance / hire	9,481	9,824
General insurance	120,089	112,069
Grants and contributions	92,891	122,755
Motor vehicle expenses	105,771	95,485
Office related expenses	251,563	250,436
Operating expenses	215,169	221,226
Printing / publications	54,124	37,441
Protective clothing	18,537	5,434
Rates and property costs	376,576	275,483
Travel expenses	91,295	82,151
Vessel costs	16,592	19,913
	1,474,213	**1,429,558**

Note 8 Gains / (Losses) on Disposal of Assets

Proceeds from the disposal of plant and equipment	159,762	465,761
Written down value of disposed assets	(138,532)	(402,869)
Total gain / (loss) on disposal	**21,231**	**62,892**

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

Note 9(a) Property, Plant, Equipment and Infrastructure	2026 $	2025 $
Land at fair value *	1,855,000	1,865,000
Total	**1,855,000**	**1,865,000**
Buildings at fair value*	3,580,001	3,647,956
Less accumulated depreciation	0	87,874
Total	**3,580,001**	**3,560,081**
Motor vehicles at cost	473,695	389,896
Less accumulated depreciation	113,030	126,213
Total	**360,666**	**263,682**
Equipment at cost	1,353,464	1,289,291
Less accumulated depreciation	1,141,577	1,106,198
Total	**211,887**	**183,093**
Vessels at cost	270,758	183,320
Less accumulated depreciation	130,456	133,680
Total	**140,301**	**49,640**
Total property plant and equipment	**6,147,855**	**5,921,497**
Infrastructure	1,169,043	1,169,043
Less accumulated depreciation	258,775	229,154
Total	**910,269**	**939,889**
Work in progress at cost		
Vessels at cost	0	105,832
Infrastructure at cost	46,409	31,842
Total	**46,409**	**137,674**
Total property, plant, equipment and infrastructure	**7,104,533**	**6,999,060**

* Valuations are derived from the analysis of market sales for different classes of properties and locality as at 30 June 2026.

9(b) Reconciliation of Movements (including fair value levels)

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of each class of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the previous financial year are set out below. Carrying value means the net amount after deducting accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

2026	Land Level 2 (vacant land in active markets) $'000	Buildings Level 2 (general office buildings) $'000	Infrastructure $'000	Motor Vehicles $'000	Plant and Equipment $'000	Vessels $'000	Work In Progress $'000	Total $'000
Balance 1 July	1,865	3,560	940	264	183	50	138	7,000
Additions	-	-	-	290	22	44	13	369
Disposals	-	-	-	(133)	-	(5)	-	(138)
Depreciation expense	-	(89)	(30)	(60)	(35)	(11)	-	(225)
Revaluation increments (decrements)	(10)	109	-	-	-	-	-	99
Transfers	-	-	-	-	42	63	(105)	-
Carrying amount 30 June	**1,855**	**3,580**	**910**	**361**	**212**	**141**	**46**	**7,105**

2025	Land Level 2 (vacant land in active markets) $'000	Buildings Level 2 (general office buildings) $'000	Infrastructure $'000	Motor Vehicles $'000	Plant and Equipment $'000	Vessels $'000	Work In Progress $'000	Total $'000
Balance 1 July	1,950	3,890	969	286	181	36	-	7,312
Additions	-	38	-	55	26	33	138	290
Disposals	(85)	(274)	-	(28)	0	(16)	-	(403)
Depreciation expense	-	(94)	(29)	(49)	(24)	(3)	-	(199)
Revaluation increments (decrements)	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	0
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carrying amount 30 June	**1,865**	**3,560**	**940**	**264**	**183**	**50**	**138**	**7,000**

Note 10 Investment Property

(a) Carrying amount

	2026 $	2025 $
At valuation previously	4,775,000	4,775,000
Revaluation net	158,473	-
Additions at cost	41,527	-
Total	**4,975,000**	**4,775,000**

Fair Value Measurement of Investment Properties

Investment properties consist of a property in West Hobart that operates as a kitchen and restaurant, and a property in Moonah that operates as a retail outlet and a bus depot which operates from the rear of a property in New Norfolk. Values are based on valuations undertaken by Colliers Valuation as at 30 June 2026.

Other Assets

Work in Progress

Vessels at cost	46,409	105,832
Infrastructure at cost	-	31,842
Total	**46,409**	**137,674**

(b) Reconciliation of movements (including fair value levels)

	2026 Level 2 $'000	2025 Level 2 $'000
Carrying amount at 1 July	4,775	4,775
Additions	42	-
Revaluation adjustments	158	-
Carrying amount at 30 June	**4,975**	**4,775**

(c) Amounts recognised in profit and loss for investment property

	2026 $	2025 $
Rental income	381,514	377,056
Direct operating expenses from property that generated rental income	-70,909	-3,374
Net gains / (losses) from fair value adjustments	-	-
Total	**310,605**	**373,682**

(d) Leasing arrangements

The investment properties are leased to tenants under long term operating leases with rentals payable monthly. Minimum lease payments are non-cancellable operating leases of investment properties not recognised in the financial statements receivable as follows.

	2026 $	2025 $
One year or less	206,287	79,543
From one to five years	356,757	722,097
More than five years	-	-
Total	**563,044**	**801,640**

(e) Contractual obligations

At year end there were no contractual obligations.

Note 11 Auditor's Remuneration

The total of fees paid for the financial year.		
Fees for Audit	26,500	25,000
Total	**26,500**	**25,000**

Note 12 Reserves

Asset Revaluation Reserve-Land	2,272,397	2,282,397
Asset Revaluation Reserve-Buildings	3,724,091	3,615,501
Total	**5,996,488**	**5,897,898**
Movements during the year:		
Balance at the beginning of period	5,897,895	5,897,895
Net change in valuations		
Land	(10,000)	-
Buildings	108,593	-
Balance at the end of period	**5,996,488**	**5,897,895**

Note 13 Accumulated Funds

Opening balance	5,735,612	5,003,599
Net surplus for the year	194,547	732,013
Closing Balance	**5,930,159**	**5,735,612**

Note 14 Contributed Capital

Contributed capital represents the initial net amount of Assets and Liabilities when the IFS commenced reporting on an accrual basis from the commencement of the 2000-01 financial year.

	2026 $	2025 $
Balance as at 1 July	3,199,854	3,199,854
Balance as at 30 June	**3,199,854**	**3,199,854**

Note 15(a) Employee benefits

Annual leave	277,494	240,947
Long service leave	495,748	426,028
Accrued salaries	97,538	82,188
Total	**870,780**	**749,163**
Settled within 12 months	434,361	361,952
Settled in more than 12 months	436,419	387,211
Total	**870,780**	**749,163**

(b) Related party transactions

There are no material related party transactions with Key Management Personnel (KMP) including Cabinet Ministers, or their Close Family Members (CFM) or entities that are controlled or jointly controlled by KMP or CFM in 2026 $0 (2025 $0).

(c) Remuneration of key management personnel

	Short term benefits		Long term benefits		
2026	**Salary[1]**	**Other[2]**	**Super-annuation[3]**	**Other[4]**	**Total**
	$'000	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**
Ryan Wilkinson - Director	194	0	23	11	228
Total	**194**	**0**	**23**	**11**	**228**

	Short-term benefits		Long-term benefits		
2025	**Salary[1]**	**Other[2]**	**Super-annuation[3]**	**Other[4]**	**Total**
	$'000	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**	**$'000**
John Diggle - Retired at 11/09/2024	60	(28)	11	(7)	36
Ryan Wilkinson - appointed as Acting Director of Inland Fisheries from 01/07/2024 and the Director from 13/02/2025	186	12	22	6	226
Total	**246**	**(16)**	**33**	**(1)**	**262**

1 All forms of consideration paid and payable for services rendered and compensated absences during the period.

2 Based on the Public Sector Superannuation Reform Act 2016.

3 Other long-term benefits represent movements in annual leave, long service leave entitlements. Negative amounts represent more leave being taken, in a given year, than accrued.

Note 16(a) Reconciliation of net cash used in operating activities to surplus / (deficit)

	2026 $	2025 $
Net surplus (deficit)	293,140	732,013
Net (gain) loss on sale of non-financial assets	(21,231)	(62,892)
Depreciation	225,088	199,215
Revaluation adjustment for investment properties	(257,066)	-
Change in assets/liabilities	-	-
Decrease (increase) in other assets	-	-
Increase (decrease) in employee benefits	121,617	30,743
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	924	(33,731)
(Increase) decrease in receivables	14,323	16,782
Net cash gained (used) in operating activities	**376,796**	**882,129**

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand and at the bank.

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to items in the statement of financial position as follows:

(b) Cash at Bank		
Working accounts	585,397	629,625
Short term deposits	305,393	250,308
Total	**890,790**	**879,933**
(c) Investments		
Term deposits	3,049,912	2,936,235
Total	**3,049,912**	**2,936,235**
(d) Corporate credit card		
Facility available	110,000	110,000
Less used/committed	(9,402)	(5,178)
Balance unused	**100,598**	**104,822**

Note 17 Trade and Other Receivables	2026 $	2025 $
Sundry debtors	126,560	139,731
Net GST receivable	7,768	8,920
Total	**134,328**	**148,651**

Note 18 Trade and Other Payables Current		
Trade creditors	105,393	104,799
Deferred commitments	51,888	51,558
Total	**157,281**	**156,357**

Note 19 Events Subsequent to Balance date

The Director of Inland Fisheries is not aware of any matter or circumstance since the end of the financial year that has significant effect, or may significantly affect, the operations of the IFS, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the IFS in subsequent financial years.

Note 20 Financial Instruments

20.1 Risk Exposures

(a) Risk management policies

The IFS has exposure to the following risks from its use of financial instruments:

a. credit risk;

b. liquidity risk; and

c. market risk.

The Director has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Inland Fisheries Service's risk management framework. Risk management policies are established to identify and analyse risks faced by the Service, to set appropriate limits and controls, and to monitor risks and adherence to limits.

Risk exposure	Measurement method
Credit Risk	Ageing analysis, earnings at risk
Liquidity risk	Sensitivity analysis
Market risk	Interest rate sensitivity analysis

(b) Credit risk exposures

Credit risk is the financial loss to the IFS if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. Receivables are valued at amortised cost. Cash on hand is valued at face value. The carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the Financial Statements, net of any allowances for losses, represents the IFS's maximum exposure to credit risk for the FS without taking into account of any collateral or other security: The following tables analyse financial assets that are past due but not impaired.

Analysis of financial assets that are past due at 30 June 2026 but not impaired

	Not past due $	Not past due 60 days $	Not past Due 90 days $	Total $
Trade and other receivables	134,328	0	0	134,328

Analysis of financial assets that are past due at 30 June 2025 but not impaired

	Not past due $	Not past due 60 days $	Not past Due 90 days $	Total $
Trade and other receivables	148,651	0	0	148,651

(c) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the IFS will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The IFS's approach to managing liquidity for the IFS is to ensure that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when they fall due.

The following tables detail undiscounted cash flows payable by the IFS by contractual maturity for its financial liabilities. It should be noted that as these are undiscounted, totals may not reconcile to the carrying amounts presented in the Statement of Financial Position.

	Maturity analysis for financial liabilities						
2026	**1 Year**	**2 Years**	**3 Years**	**4 Years**	**5 Years**	**More than 5 Years**	**Undiscounted Total**
	$	**$**	**$**	**$**	**$**	**$**	**$**
Financial Liabilities							
Trade and other payables	157,281						157,281
Total	157,281	-	-	-	-	-	157,281

	Maturity analysis for financial liabilities						
2025	**1 Year**	**2 Years**	**3 Years**	**4 Years**	**5 Years**	**More than 5 Years**	**Undiscounted Total**
	$	**$**	**$**	**$**	**$**	**$**	**$**
Financial Liabilities							
Trade and other payables	156,357	-	-	-	-	-	156,357
Total	156,357	-	-	-	-	-	156,357

(d) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The primary market risk that the IFS is exposed to is interest rate risk.

At the reporting date, the interest rate profile of the IFS's interest bearing financial instruments was:

2026	**$**	**Weighted average interest rate**
Variable rate instruments		
Cash at bank	890,789	1.32%
Fixed rate instruments		
Term deposits	3,049,912	4.40%
Total	**3,940,701**	

2025	$	Weighted average interest rate
Variable rate instruments		
Cash at bank	879,933	0.10%
Fixed rate instruments		
Term deposits	2,936,235	4.77%
Total	**3,816,168**	

Sensitivity analysis of Services exposure to possible changes in interest rates

Changes in variable rates of 100 basis points at reporting date would have the following effect on the IFS's profit or loss and equity:

	Income Statement		Equity	
30 June 2026	**100 basis points increase $'000**	**100 basis points decrease $'000**	**100 basis points increase $'000**	**100 basis points decrease $'000**
Financial assets	39	39		
Net sensitivity	**39**	**39**	**-**	**-**
30 June 2025				
Financial assets	38	(38)	38	(38)
Net sensitivity	**38**	**(38)**	**38**	**(38)**

This analysis assumes all other variables remain constant. The analysis was performed on the same basis for 2025.

Categories of financial assets and liabilities

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Financial assets		
Cash, investments and receivables at amortised cost.	4,075	3,965
Total	**4,075**	**3,965**
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	157	156
Total	**157**	**156**

Net fair values of financial assets and liabilities	2026 Total carrying amount $'000	2026 Net fair value $'000	2025 Total carrying amount $'000	2025 Net fair value $'000
Financial Assets				
Cash at bank and investments	3,941	3,925	3,816	3,800
Receivables	134	134	149	149
Total financial assets	**4,075**	**4,059**	**3,965**	**3,949**
Financial liabilities (recognised)				
Trade creditors	157	157	156	156
Total financial liabilities (recognised)	**157**	**157**	**156**	**156**

Financial assets

The net fair values of cash and non-interest bearing monetary financial assets approximate their carrying amounts.

Financial liabilities

The net fair values for trade creditors are approximated by their carrying amounts.

Note 21 Commitments and Contingencies

There were no commitments, contingent assets or liabilities at year end.

INLAND FISHERIES SERVICE

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

The Inland Fisheries Service (IFS) is established under the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995* with the Inland Fisheries Service being used as a business name. The Director of Inland Fisheries, a body corporate under the Act, has the power to execute contracts of all types, to acquire and sell property and to invest.

Note 1 Summary of Accounting Policies

The following summary explains the significant accounting policies that have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements.

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are a general purpose financial report and have been prepared in accordance with:

Australian Accounting Standards issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and Interpretations; and applicable Treasurers Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2016* and the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995.*

Australian Accounting Standards include Australian Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Compliance with IFRS may not result in compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as IFRS includes requirements and options available to not-for-profit organisations that are inconsistent with IFRS. The IFS is considered to be not-for-profit and has adopted some accounting policies under AASB's that do not comply with IFRS.

The Financial Statements have been prepared as a going concern on an accrual basis and, except where stated, are in accordance with the historical cost convention. The accounting policies are generally consistent with the previous year.

The Financial Statements are presented in Australian dollars which is the functional currency of the IFS.

(b) Changes in Accounting Policies

(i) Impact of new and revised Accounting Standards

In the current year, the IFS has adopted all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board that are relevant to its operations and effective for the current annual reporting period.

(ii) Impact of new and revised Accounting Standards yet to be applied

The IFS has reviewed the pending Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board and conclude they will not have a material impact on the Service's operations.

(iii) Changes in Accounting Policy

There have been no changes to accounting policies from the previous financial year.

(a) Revenue

Revenue is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when an increase in future economic benefits related to an increase in an asset or a decrease of a liability has arisen that can be reliably measured. Revenue is recognised at fair value of the consideration received net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST) payable to the Australian Taxation Office.

A liability is recognised in respect of revenue that is reciprocal in nature to the extent that the requisite service has not been provided at balance date and conditions include a requirement to refund unused contributions. Revenue is then recognised as the various performance obligations under an agreement are fulfilled.

Angling and other licence fees that are short term or low value are recognised on receipt as cash sales as this corresponds with the issue of the relevant licence.

Revenue is recognised when the IFS obtains control of the contribution or the right to receive the contribution, it is probable that the economic benefits comprising the contribution will flow to the IFS and the amount of the contribution can be measured reliably.
Rental income is invoiced monthly in advance and recorded as revenue when invoiced.

Control over granted assets is normally obtained upon their receipt (or acquittal) or upon earlier notification that a grant has been secured and are valued at their fair value at the date of transfer.

Where grants or contributions recognised as revenues during the financial year were obtained on condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period and those conditions were undischarged at balance date, the unused grant or contribution is disclosed as a contract liability.

Interest on funds invested is recognised as it accrues using the effective interest rate method.

Other revenue is primarily the recovery of costs incurred and is recognised when an increase in future economic benefits relating to an asset or a decrease of a liability has arisen that can be reliably measured.

(b) Expenses

Expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when a decrease in future economic benefits related to a decrease in asset or an increase of a liability has arisen that can be measured reliably.

Employee benefits include entitlements to wages and salaries, annual leave, long service leave, superannuation and any other post-employment benefits.

Operating costs include all other expenses other than personnel expense and depreciation that are incurred in undertaking the activities of the IFS.

All applicable items of property, plant and equipment having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner which reflects the consumption of their service potential. Land, being an asset with unlimited useful life, is not depreciated.

(c) Other economic flows included in net result

Other economic flows measure the change in volume or value of assets or liabilities that do not result from transactions.

Gains or losses from the sale of non-financial assets are recognised when control of the assets has passed to the buyer.

(d) Impairment – Financial assets (Trade and other receivables)

Trade and other receivables that do not contain a significant financing component are measured at amortised cost, which represents their transaction value. An assessment for impairment is conducted on an expected credit loss basis at each reporting date. When determining whether the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition, and when estimating the expected credit loss, the IFS considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on the IFS's historical experience, an informed credit assessment and forward-looking information.

(e) Impairment – Non-financial assets

All non-financial assets are assessed to determine whether any impairment exists. Impairment exists when the recoverable amount of an asset is less than it's carrying amount. Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

The IFS's assets are not used for the purpose of generating cash flows; therefore value in use is based on depreciated replacement cost where the asset would be replaced if deprived of it. All impairment losses are recognised in Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Impairment losses recognised in prior periods are assessed at each reporting date for any indications that the loss has decreased or no longer exists. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

(f) Assets

Assets are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position when it is probable that the future economic benefits will flow to the IFS and the asset has a cost or value that can be reliably measured.

(g) Cash

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

(h) Non-Financial Assets

Acquisition, Recognition and Valuation

Non-financial assets are initially recorded at their cost of acquisition and re-valued in accordance with the following accounting policy. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the cost of the asset. The costs of self-constructed assets include the cost of materials and direct labour, any other costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to a working condition for its use.

The asset capitalisation threshold adopted by the IFS is $10,000. Assets valued at less than $10,000 are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the year of purchase (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which represent a value greater than $10,000). Assets are grouped on the basis of having similar nature or function in the operations of the IFS.

Assets Valued at Fair Value – Land and Buildings

Freehold and vested land and buildings are initially brought to account at cost. Subsequent to initial recognition land is recorded at fair value and buildings are recorded at fair value less accumulated depreciation.

Fair value is based on the highest and best use of the asset. Unless there is an explicit Government policy to the contrary, the highest and best use of an asset is the current purpose for which the asset is being used. These assets are revalued with sufficient regularity to ensure they reflect fair value at balance date.

Inland Fisheries land and buildings are revalued at least once every five years using a mix of valuations and/or updated based indices adjustments. The revaluation is undertaken by the Office of the Valuer-General. Investment properties, land and buildings were revalued as at, 30 June 2026. The next revaluation will occur during the year ending 30 June 2028.

Motor Vehicles, Vessels, Plant, Equipment and Infrastructure

Motor vehicles, vessels and plant and equipment are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation.

Disposal of Assets

Any gain or loss on the disposal of assets is determined as the difference between the carrying value of the asset, at the time of disposal, and the proceeds from the disposal. It is included in the financial results in the year of disposal.

Depreciation

Items of property, infrastructure and plant and equipment (excluding freehold land) are depreciated over their economically useful lives. The straight-line method is used, except for vessels, which have been depreciated on the diminishing value basis. Assets are depreciated from their date of acquisition and where they have been revalued, depreciation is charged on the adjusted amount. Depreciation rates are reviewed annually. If necessary, they are adjusted to reflect the most recent assessments of the useful lives of the respective assets with regard to such factors as asset usage, the rates of the technical and commercial obsolescence and the most recent assessment of net amounts expected to be recovered on their disposal.

Major depreciation periods are:

Buildings	40 Years
Infrastructure	40 Years
Plant and Equipment	10 Years to 25 Years
Vehicles	8 Years
Vessels	10 Years

(i) Investment properties

Investment property is property held either to earn rental income or for capital appreciation or both. Investment properties are derecognised when either they have been disposed of or when the investment property is permanently withdrawn from use and no future economic benefit is expected from its disposal. Investment property is not depreciated. Investment property is recorded at fair value, with any changes in the fair value being recorded as income or expenses in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

(j) Comparative Figures

Comparative figures, where necessary, have been reclassified to comply with the presentation adopted in the financial report.

(k) Trade and Other Payables

Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the IFS. Trade accounts are normally settled within 14 days. Accruals are included in the trade and other payables balance and are stated net of GST.

(l) Employee Entitlements Excluding Superannuation

Employee benefits include, where applicable, entitlements to wages and salaries, annual leave, sick leave, long service leave, superannuation and any other post-employment benefits including on costs.

Liabilities for wages and salaries and annual leave are recognised when an employee becomes entitled to receive a benefit. Those liabilities expected to be realised within 12 months are measured as the amount expected to be paid. Employee benefits are measured as the present value of the benefit at 30 June, where the impact of discounting is material, and at the amount expected to be paid if discounting is not material. The IFS assumes that all staff annual leave balances less than 20 days will be settled within 12 months, and therefore valued at nominal value, and balances in excess of 20 days will be settled in greater than 12 months and therefore calculated at present value.

A liability for long service leave is recognised and is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. The IFS makes a number of assumptions regarding the probability that staff who have accrued long service leave but are ineligible to take it will remain with the IFS long enough to take it. For those staff eligible to take their long service leave, the IFS assumes that they will utilise it on average, evenly over the following ten years. All long service leave that will be settled within 12 months is calculated at nominal value and all long service leave that will be settled in greater than 12 months is calculated at present value.

(m) Employer superannuation contributions

Contributions to defined benefit and other complying superannuation schemes are charged as an expense as the contribution becomes payable. The IFS does not recognise a liability for the accruing defined superannuation benefits. This liability is held centrally and is recognised within the Finance-General Division of the Department of Treasury and Finance. During the year the amounts of contributions paid to defined benefit schemes was $46,921 (2024-25 - $46,560), and the amount paid to accumulation schemes was $228,997 (2024-25 - $222,177).

(n) Economic Dependence

The IFS is dependent upon the ongoing receipt of grant funding via the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania. This administered payment amounted to $1,601,000 and represented 34 per cent of total revenue. These funds are used to undertake community service obligations in respect of the control of pest fish, the conservation and monitoring of native freshwater fish populations and environment together with a range of commitments announced by the Government in previous years.

(o) Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar, unless otherwise stated.

Where the result of expressing amounts to the nearest dollar would result in an amount of zero, the financial statement will contain a note expressing the amount to the nearest whole dollar.

(p) Taxation

The IFS is exempt from all forms of taxation except Fringe Benefits Tax and the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax, except where the GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST. The net amount recoverable from or payable to the Australian Taxation Office is recognised as an asset or liability within the Statement of Financial Position.

In the Statement of Cash Flows, the GST component of cash flows arising from operating, investing or financing activities which is recovered from, or paid to, the Australian Taxation

Office is, in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, classified as operating cash flows.

(q) Leases

Low value short term operating lease payments are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

(r) Judgements and Assumptions

In the application of Australian Accounting Standards, the IFS is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Significant judgement made by IFS that has a significant effect on the financial statements relate to:

Employee entitlements, the assumptions for which are provided by the Department of Treasury and Finance which are. A wage inflation rate of 4.0% per annum and discount rates for year 1 of 4.580%, year 2 of 4.521%, year 3 of 4.477%, year 4 of 4.476%, year 5 of 4.517%, year 6 of 4.580%, year 7 of 4.643%, year 8 of 4.725%, year 9 of 4.802% and year 10 of 4.844%.

Property, plant and equipment in notes 1(j) and 9.

Investment properties in notes 1(k) and 10.

IFS has made no assumptions concerning the future that may cause a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

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Wednesday, 28 October 2026

Management Certification

The accompanying financial statements of the Inland Fisheries Service are in agreement with the relevant accounts and records and have been prepared in compliance with:

- Australian Accounting Standards
- Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2016*
- *The Inland Fisheries Act 1995.*

I believe that, in all material respects, the financial statements present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the IFS' financial position as at 30th June 2026, results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.

At the date of signing this certification, I am not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.

The completed Financial Statements Preparation and Submission Checklist is enclosed.





Ryan Wilkinson
Director of Inland Fisheries

Xiaojing Zhou
Manager Finance and Business

Audit Tasmania

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Parliament

Inland Fisheries Service

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of the Inland Fisheries Service (the Service), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2026, statements of comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the statement of certification signed by the Director and Manager - Finance and Business.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report:

(a) present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Service as at 30 June 2026 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended

(b) is in accordance with the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995, Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the Financial Management Act 2016* and Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted the audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report. I am independent of the Service in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

The *Audit Act 2008* further promotes the independence of the Auditor-General. The Auditor-General is the auditor of all Tasmanian public sector entities and can only be removed by Parliament. The Auditor-General may conduct an audit in any way considered appropriate and is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which audit powers are to be exercised. The Auditor-General has for the purposes of conducting an audit, access to all documents and property and can report to Parliament matters which in the Auditor-General's opinion are significant.

My audit is not designed to provide assurance on the accuracy and appropriateness of the budget information included in the financial report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Other Information

The Director is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Services' annual report for the year ended 30 June 2026, but does not include the financial report and my auditor's report thereon.

My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Director for the Financial Report

The Director is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the financial reporting requirements of the *Inland Fisheries Act 1995 and the Financial Management Act 2016* and for such internal control as determined necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Director is responsible for assessing the Service's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Service is to be dissolved by an Act of Parliament, or the Director intends to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a

basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Service's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Director.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Director's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Service's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusion is based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Service to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Director regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



Hanna Jones
Director, Financial Audit Services
Delegate of the Auditor-General

23 September 2026
Hobart



Josef Wisniewski conducting Galaxias pedderensis survey at Lake Oberon.

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